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Hafa Adai!

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Air Force chooses Tinian divert

COURTESY CALL

Members of Imperial Pacific International, Ltd.'s Corporate Social Responsibility team pose for a group photo with JBoog, center in white, Anuhea, Jimmy Weeks Project, Mike Love, band members, and promoter Steven Brownstein, front row in middle, at their office on Middle Road yesterday.

MICHAEL T. SANTOS

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The U.S. Air Force signed yesterday the Record of Decision selecting the Tinian International Airport as the location for its planned divert activities and other exercises. The decision was the result of months of back-and-forth between the U.S. Department of Defense officials and the CNMI government. See AIR FORCE on Page 4

Santos: CHCC board will be apolitical

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

Transforming the character of the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. board would not affect how the corporation would be run.

At least that's what Senate Health and Welfare Committee chair Sen. Teresita Santos (R-Saipan) believes.

Santos assured yesterday that House Bill 19-186 would not authorize the board of trustees to micromanage—control or manage the day-to-day operations of CHCC.

"The legislation maintains the current provision of [Public Law] 16-51 where it provides the [chief executive officer] of CHCC the full authority and management of CHCC's daily operations and functions," she said.

See SANTOS on Page 4

'Proposed CW cap hike would offset worker losses'

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

If ever the proposed increase in the numerical limit of the CNMI-Only Transition Worker Nonimmigrant Visa or CW1 program becomes a law, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres believes it would more than make up for the shortage of U.S. qualified workers in the CNMI.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP)'s House Resolution 6401 unanimously passed the U.S. House of Representatives last Tuesday. It is now in the U.S. Senate. Sablan, Torres, and other government officials and local business leaders hope that President Barack Obama would sign it before his term ends next year.

Torres said their goal to attract U.S. eligible workers to the CNMI remains but the CNMI's work popula-

See CW on Page 4

GAO reps in the thick of scoping out NMI issues

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Future prospects of the CNMI's workforce remains uncertain even with research done by representatives of the U.S. Government Accountability Office for submission to Congress. The Saipan Chamber of Commerce assisted GAO in gathering the data, with the deadline of the draft or final report set on April 1 next year.

Emil Friberg Jr., Ph.D., GAO assistant director/senior economist for International Affairs and Trade, said they collected data and other information by doing fieldwork and interviews with employers, employees, and government officials.

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INSIDE

ASIA
Rescue workers comb through the rubble of a devastated town in Indonesia.

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SCIENCE & TECH
6 ways to keep phone charges low during international travel.

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LIFE & STYLE
Time magazine has named Donald Trump its Person of the Year.

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Local

CoCo Restaurant burglarized

Coco Restaurant employees were shocked last Wednesday morning to find out that their establishment had been robbed.

Cameras within the building showed several unidentified men going about the restaurant and taking several items between the times of 1:30am and 2:30am.

One of the suspects, who was roughly about 6'3" tall, gained entry through a window and searched the premises with a flashlight.

The burglars stole 15 bottles of brand new whiskey, five or six cases of beer, five live lobsters, and a camera from the building worth about a $1,000.

The thieves walked away with about $2,000 worth of goods.

Cameras showed several men loitering in the restaurant's premises helped themselves to some food and alcohol before departing through the back door in a white sedan.

The driver of the vehicle backed up to the doorway in order for the other two to load their stolen goods.

The license plate of the car is unrecognizable and several cameras around the property were covered with napkins.

About five or six years ago, a burglary also occurred in the same restaurant. Robbers broke through the cash register and stole a large amount of money, ultimately forcing owners of the restaurant to begin keeping their income in a safer location.

In the most recent incident, intruders broke into the register to steal about $20 in change.

Further investigation is underway. ***(Michael T. Santos)***

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Lizama: CDA should help out Bennett

Former Superior Court associate judge Juan T. Lizama said the Commonwealth Development Authority should maximize its best efforts to help out former Board of Education teacher representative Ambrose Bennett over his failure to pay his commercial loan with CDA.

CDA is suing Bennett and his company, the Lil & Bro's Trike Dealership & Rentals, for allegedly not paying the commercial loan plus accrued interest, penalty charges, legal fees, and costs totaling $39,828.49.

CDA included Lizama as a co-defendant because it was the former judge who executed a fee simple mortgage to secure the amounts Bennett and his tricycle dealership company owe under a promissory note.

When asked for comment about the lawsuit, Lizama said he executed the fee simple mortgage.

"I was kind enough to be willing to help Bennett start out a business," the former judge said.

According to CDA, Lizama mortgaged to CDA his interest in the real property containing 1,186 square meters of land.

Lizama said CDA is entitled to sell the property at auction.

If CDA is not satisfied with the bidding, CDA can purchase the property, but they have to sell the property within 10 years.

Lizama said CDA cannot hold the property in fee simple for more than 10 years.

"They have to sell it. But they cannot take fee simple title without a foreclosure. They have to foreclose the property first," the former judge said.

Bennett told *Saipan Tribune* on Tuesday that he is thankful to CDA for the loan "but it is just unfortunate that the economy was terrible at the time" he opened his company.

Bennett admits the principal amount but protests the interest.

CDA extended a loan of $61,000 to Bennett and his company on April 1, 2011. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

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Docomo Pacific hosts job fair

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Docomo Pacific hosted a job fair yesterday at the Fiesta Resort & Spa to fill up 20 job openings.

Saipan's second undersea fiber optic cable, Atisa, is expected to result in high speed Internet and an abundance of jobs to support the services.

"Atisa is going to open doors for services and products that haven't been available before in the Northern Mariana Islands. We want to match this anticipation with the right people—people who are as passionate as we are to take this project to the next level," said Docomo Pacific public relations coordinator Tatiana Perez.

Earllon Granada, 26, applied for a retail customer service representative lead position and call center lead. Granada thinks the process went well, despite the wait.

"[The job fair was] good. It was just the waiting that was really challenging, but so far so good," he said.

Granada likes to think positive whenever going through job interviews such as these. "I like to think I do. I don't want to assume that I don't. I have this mindset where I think, when I walk in there, I will get hired."

Jang Gun Korean Restaurant server Marissa Songco, 36, was testing the waters for a possible job at Docomo Pacific.

"I am trying my luck. I think I have a good shot because I worked well for other companies and my skills could contribute greatly to the company," she said.

Mark Diestro, 27, who applied for a customer service representative position, thinks that his interview went smoothly and hopes to go through the initial screening.

"There are a lot of more experienced applicants, but I do have experience under my belt too. I like to try to keep my confidence up," he said.

Docomo Pacific brand manager Danny Daniel was pleased with the outcome.

"We're super-excited that there was such a good turnout. It shows that there are huge opportunities in Docomo Pacific, and we are happy to see that people are excited to join the family," said Daniel.

The positions available were retail customer service representative lead, tech zone, direct sales representative, call center CSR lead, account executive, sales manager, sales engineer, sales support, and field technician.

CW

From Page 1

tion does not have the capacity to support the current economic boom the Commonwealth is experiencing.

"It has always been our goal to bring in as many U.S. eligible workers into the labor force as possible. But in the absence of a greater number of U.S. eligible workers, the CNMI relies on this important increase to continue to provide for economic growth so families in the CNMI can enjoy greater standards of living," said Torres.

He said that HR 6401's passing just shows the importance and significance of the CW1 program to the CNMI economy, which had seen a dramatic increase since 2009. He then congratulated Sablan for his work.

"I congratulate [Delegate] Sablan for his work on seeing this bill through the House and will continue to work with him to ensure our economy can continue to grow for the benefit of each resident of our CNMI," added Torres.

HR 6401 aims to amend Public Law 94-241 with respect to the Northern Mariana Islands. If it becomes a law, it would increase the number of CW permits from 12,998 to 15,000 in fiscal year 2017. HR 6401 is also known as the Northern Mariana Islands Economic Expansion Act.

HR 6401 would bar construction workers from using the increase in CW1 visas; they would to go to the H2 category as required by law. HR 6401 would also increase the education fee for each approved CW permit of a foreign worker from $150 to $200, with the funds going to the training of U.S. qualified workers.

Apology

Saipan Chamber of Commerce secretary Alex Sablan also apologized for an error in the statement he gave in Wednesday's SCC general membership meeting at the Saipan World Resort's Royal Taga Hall.

At that meeting, Alex Sablan said that HR 6401 was placed as a rider on American Samoa's Republican Delegate Amata Radewagon's legislation. "I [would like] to apologize to [Delegate] Sablan."

"I stated in error during last Wednesday's [SCC] general membership meeting that Delegate Sablan's HR 6401 was placed as a rider with Delegate Radewagon's legislation."

"I now know this was not the case and that Delegate Sablan introduced this legislation separately and independently, working diligently with members of U.S. Congress for its successful passage in the House of Representatives."

"I apologize for my misstatement and I again thank Delegate Sablan for his continued great work in U.S. Congress pursuing this and additional legislation that will truly help to sustain and grow our CNMI economy for all residents and citizens to benefit from and enjoy."

AIR FORCE

From Page 1

The decision to choose Tinian for divert activities and initiatives was based on a review of the National Environmental Protection Act, the CNMI Final Environmental Impact System, and a series of meetings between local and federal panels.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres had met with Lt. Gen. Anthony Crutchfield, the U.S. Pacific Command deputy commander, as part of his visit to Hawaii where he also attended the 75th year of commemoration of the attack on Pearl Harbor.

"It has been a long process. [But] from the very beginning we were insistent that Tinian be the selected alternative to support the Tinian airport and economy, while preserving the economic importance of the Saipan airport to the overall CNMI economy," said Torres in a statement released yesterday.

He said he was pleased that Crutchfield and other defense officials heard their concerns. "[They] met with me on a regular basis and selected the location that we felt would be in the best interest of both our people in the CNMI and our national security interests."

The Tinian airport's facilities will now be renovated and upgraded so it would have the capacity and equipment to support landing cargo, tankers, and other aircraft, and personnel in the divert activities and other exercises by U.S. military in the region.

Torres said a great deal of work was put in by the CNMI to make sure the military's plans would also benefit the people of Tinian. "The collaboration we have shared with the [DoD] underlines the fact that, as Americans, we care for the security of our nation."

"And that, if done with consideration for the needs of the people of the CNMI, partnerships can work in all our interests," Torres said.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) also sent his congratulations to Torres and the Tinian leadership led by Mayor Joey Patrick San Nicolas to bring the divert airfield to Tinian. Assistant Secretary of the Air Force Miranda Ballentine informed Sablan of the ROD signing.

"The north of Tinian was the area that the Covenant set aside for use by the U.S. military, and [the Dec. 8] decision is consistent with that agreement," said Sablan.

"I think the mayor and people of Tinian will especially appreciate the divert activities will be located at the airport there in a way that does not directly conflict with private development," he added.

SANTOS

From Page 1

Santos said the intention of the bill is to revert the current role of the CHCC board from an advisory one into a governing board.

"It further clarifies as to who has the authority to call for a meeting, that is, the chairman of the board of trustees versus the current law where a call for a meeting lies with the CEO," said Santos.

"Having a governing board will ensure an oversight authority, hence there would be checks and balances in the management or operations of the corporation," added the senator.

Santos said that despite the backlash since the passage of the bill, the Senate is looking to further amend the bill in the near future.

"The Senate will be making amendments on HB 19-186, taking into consideration the comments received from the division directors and staff of CHCC including our community, regardless whether the comments are in opposition or in favor of the legislation," said Santos.

Santos also said the Senate is fully aware of the complexity of running the hospital and the Senate would make sure to appoint members with experience in the medical field.

"Similarly and as indicated by all the members of the Senate, the Senate will have the opportunity to thoroughly examine or screen the qualifications, work experiences, and educational attainments of each appointee nominated to serve as a board of trustee of CHCC. HB19-186 specifically requires that at least three of the board of trustees have experiences in healthcare or services," she added.

Santos assured that the point of the board was not to control the corporation with a political agenda. Santos also said no jobs would be in danger upon the appointment of board members, saying the board is merely present to make sure the corporation is doing what it is supposed to do—provide proper healthcare to the CNMI.

"The establishment of the board of trustee is not to create a climate or environment of fear. Rather, to ensure there is accountability and transparency, promulgate policies, and ensure that the policies are acted accordingly,: she said.

Under the bill, the CEO will be an employee of the board and can be retained or fired accordingly.

Santos, however, said the legislation provides that the CEO can only be removed with cause.

"So it is not automatic," she said.

Saipan Tribune tried to obtain comments from the author of HB 19-186, House Health and Welfare committee chair Rep. Felicidad Ogumoro (R-Saipan).

SDA School hosts 'Christmas in our Jammies'

The Saipan Seventh Day Adventist School hosted a program called "Christmas in our Jammies" at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center yesterday in celebration of the Christmas season.

The program highlighted the talents of SDA students as they performed a Christmas program for parents and guests.

SDA's child development program was one of the highlights of the evening, with multiple toddlers aged 18 months to 4 years of age, all in pajamas singing and dancing to Christmas tunes.

SDA principal Randy Yates was pleased with the turnout.

"I did not expect this turnout," he said. "We made a hundred of brochures to pass out—and we ran out of brochures. That tells me that [the parents] are concerned about their children's education because [they] were here."

SDA is a private school affiliated with the second largest Christian school system in the world. SDA Saipan is situated in Chalan Kiya, and caters to preschool students and earlier, up to middle school students. ***(Erwin Encinares)***

GAO

From Page 1

"GAO gathered research on two assignments requested by the U.S. Congress. The first is on the CNMI immigration and minimum wage [issues] and the second is the review of the overall debt of U.S. territories," said Friberg.

"When we do our report, it is free for the U.S. Congress to use or if they would consider changing policies or continue a program. Our report does not change legislation, it is information for congressional consideration."

In other words, Congress has the option to heed or ignore the report.

To collate its data, GAO interviewed CNMI officials, employers, and CW and U.S. workers.

"We received quite a bit of data from the CNMI and accumulated data from [Department of Homeland Security] about the different types of visas that are utilized here, including CW visas. These are issues concerning the economy, immigration, and workforce."

Part of their research is on the minimum wage issue and the situation of the CNMI-Only Transitional Workforce Visa program, and making sure training programs are in place for U.S. qualified workers.

"Part of the report is the use of U.S. and CNMI funds for training and what has been the effort by employers to recruit and train U.S. qualified workers," said Friberg.

Delegate Gregorio "Kilili" Sablan (Ind-MP), with the support of Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska) and other ranking members of the Senate Energy Committee, requested GAO to visit the CNMI to review and make a report on the CW1 program and other workforce issues.

Another part of GAO's report would discuss the economic impact of bringing the CW1 population to zero in 2019 and the minimum wage implementation.

"From here, we're going to do an empirical analysis of the economy and the role of the visa categories on the report. We do have a draft that would go to the CNMI government for official comment. They can hold it for up to one month to provide us the comments, either technical comments or for corrections," said Friberg.

Aside from the CNMI, the other U.S. territories are American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Minority bloc to follow status quo

The minority bloc of the House of Representatives will be following the status quo in the incoming 20th Legislature and would wait for the leadership to decide on the composition of the nine committees.

The local GOP enjoys a super majority after gaining 15 of the 20 seats at stake during the Nov. 8 general elections. House Speaker Rafael S. Demapan (R-Saipan) will lead the 20th Legislature after mustering eight votes, including his own vote to secure the post.

Demapan said the speaker has the prerogative in appointing committee chair and its members. "But pretty much each member will have their own share of committee."

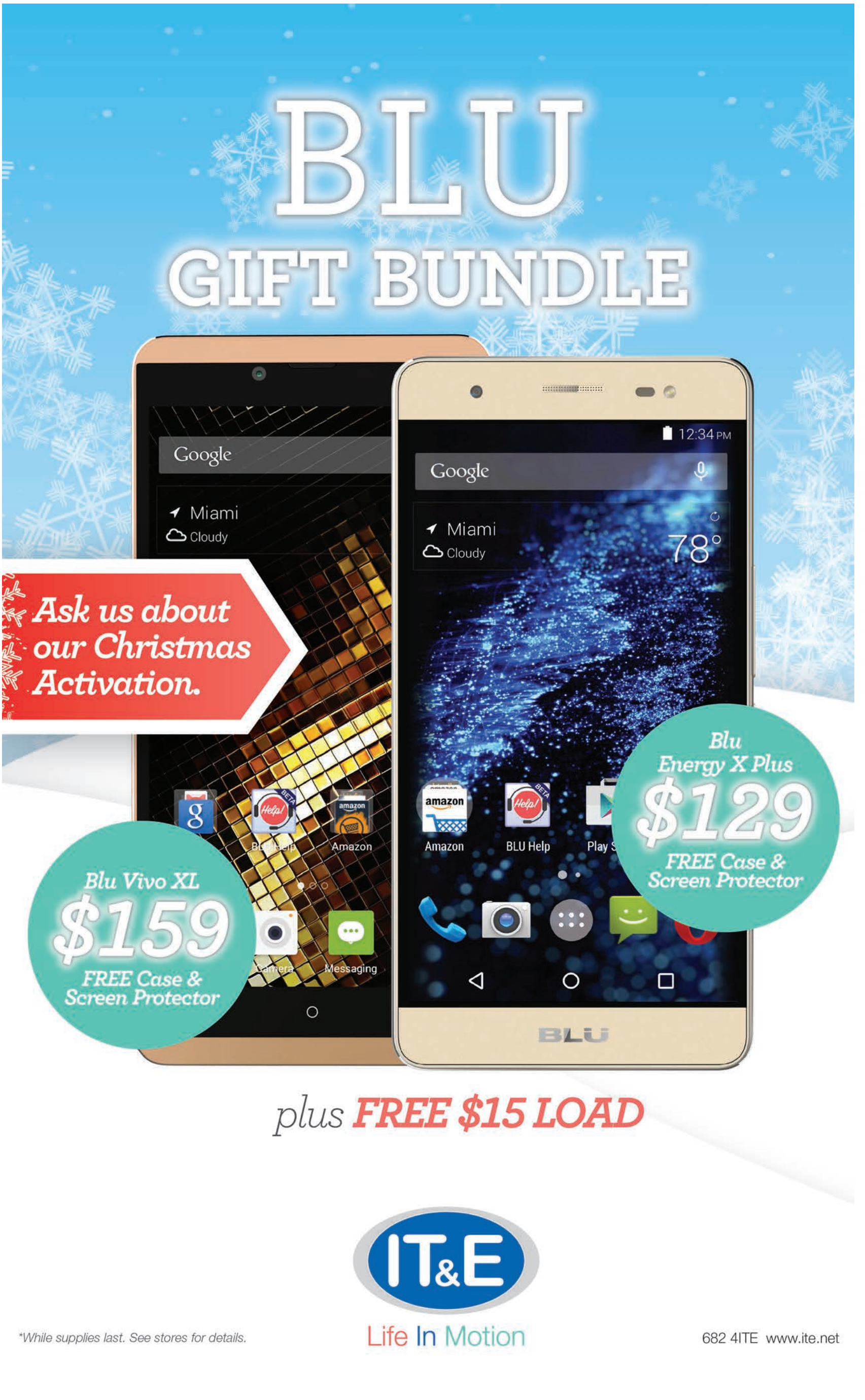
Rep. Blas Jonathan T. Attao (Ind-Saipan) said that filling the committee chair positions is the only thing that needs to be settled.

"The two groups sat down and formulated the leadership. We now know the composition of the House leadership after they settled among them. The leadership will now settle the committee chairmanships and the members," said Attao.

Rep. Vinson F. Sablan (Ind-Saipan), another minority bloc member, said they expect some of the committees to be split into two in order to evenly divide the chairmanships and its members. "It will be interesting to see the breakdown of the committees and what type comes forth. They are going to split some to accommodate most of them if nor all of them."

Sablan said that he would do his part to help the 20th Legislature even though he won't become a member of any of the nine committees.

Rep. Edmund S. Villagomez (Ind-Saipan), the incoming minority leader, also shared Sablan's comments on the leadership splitting the committees. "It is still too early to tell but with the super majority, I'm sure they are going to split some of the committees. …At the end of the day it's the leadership's call. ***(Jon Perez)***



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Contribute to book on contemporary Marianas culture

What does culture look like today in the Marianas? What factors, issues, and events are helping to shape local culture? Are there generational conflicts in the way that culture and cultural pride are expressed?

Northern Marianas College instructors and authors Ajani Burrell and Kimberly Bunts-Anderson will attempt to answer these and other questions as part of a book project that aims to document stories and collect a series of essays that examine contemporary culture in the Marianas. The authors are also encouraging community members with stories to share to contribute to the book.

"We are envisioning the book to be a collection of voices from the Marianas about culture in the Marianas, the full expanse of which we hope will provide a broad understanding of the present-day cultural dynamics," said Burrell.

The book will explore themes that include cultural resurgence (like the cultural pride evident in the local clothing companies like Femme Fokai "Since ever since" and Tribe Marianas, or cultural maintenance efforts like "We Learn Chamorro"); island superstitions/beliefs; cultural artifacts (clothing, instruments, jewelry, tattoos, etc.); business and entrepreneurship; decay (abandoned homes, buildings, houses, institutions, etc.); changing demographics and their influences; cultural customs; and other modern cultural issues, aspects, and events.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
NMC instructor Ajani Burrell.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
NMC instructor Kimberly Bunts Anderson.

Examples that may be examined in the book include families struggling with generational conflicts based on language barriers (e.g. grandchildren that speak no Chamorro or Carolinian while grandparents speak little or no English). The book will also look at current community issues, such as the plight of contract workers, social and cultural impacts of the first large-scale casino on Saipan, and the growth of intercultural marriages.

"In tackling questions of contemporary culture, the book hopes to provide a panoramic view through an examination of the microscopic—the individual as a tapestry of the whole," Burrell said. "We're looking for those in the community with a relevant, moving, and representative story to share."

Burrell stressed that the book will be written in approachable, non-academic prose for general consumption. He said he and Bunts-Anderson envision the book to be used as a supplemental textbook in educational settings, whether K-12 or post-secondary.

Potential contributors or those who have stories they would like to share are asked to visit www.marianas.edu/culture and to fill out the contact form.

The project is supported by a grant from the Northern Marianas Humanities Council and Northern Marianas College. ***(NMC)***

VA benefits outreach today

The U.S. Department of Veterans Benefits Administration (non-health) will be conducting a Veterans Benefits Outreach today, Dec. 9, 2016, from 9am to 3pm at the Saipan VA Outreach Clinic, MH II Bldg., Suite 206, Marina Heights Business Park in Garapan.

This will be a one-on-one outreach. Chris Duenas, legal administrative specialist, will be available to answer questions and take your claims.

Points of contact are Ruth Coleman, 322-0035; Chris Duenas, 1-671-648-0090. ***(VA)***

Worker's lawyers demand $199,227 in attorneys' fees

The lawyers of a woman who was awarded by the federal court more than $132,000 in unpaid wages and liquidated damages are demanding more than $199,000 in attorneys' fees.

Attorneys Mark B. Hanson, Bruce Berline, and Benjamin K. Petersburg, counsel for Yu Xuan, are also seeking payment of $15,974.50 in paralegal and staff services and $21,897.19 in costs.

The three lawyers submitted their attorneys' fees and costs at the behest of U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona,who ordered them to file an accounting of fees and costs.

Hanson and Berline said the lodestar amount of $199,227.50 (653.9 hours x $250 an hour plus 204.3 hours x $175 an hour) in attorney fees were reasonably incurred in the prosecution of Xuan's case against Joo Yeon Corp., Se Young Corp., and Yang-Tack Hwang.

Hanson and Berline are billing at $250 an hour, while Petersburg is billing at $175 an hour.

Hanson claimed that he spent 423.4 hours developing and drafting the claims, for substantial discovery efforts, with settlement negotiations, and with motions for substantial relief.

Berline claimed that he spent 230.5 hours on defending initial efforts of defendants to get Xuan's claims dismissed.

Petersburg said he spent 204.3 hours assisting in discovery efforts and the conduct of various depositions, researching and drafting a dispositive motion, coordinating with interpreters, preparing for trial and assisting with various issues that arose during the bench trial.

The lawyers said they also enlisted the assistance of two paralegals at various times in the case.

The court recently awarded the 52-year-old Xuan $75,979.44 in unpaid wages and $56,698.40 in liquidated damages after her three former employers made her work an average of 13 hours each day.

Manglona found Joo Yeon Corp. (JYC), Se Young Corp. (SYC), and Yang-Tack Hwang liable to pay Xuan a total of $132,677.84.

Manglona determined that Xuan was neither paid the prevailing minimum wage nor overtime for those hours, in violation of the Fair Labor Standards Act, the Commonwealth's Minimum Wage and Hour Act, and her employment contract.

Xuan filed her civil action in 2012.

Xuan claimed she worked in excess of 18 hours each day despite being paid a flat fee of $800 per month. Defendants failed to keep time sheets or any other documentation of Xuan's hours worked, and argued that Xuan worked far fewer hours than claimed.

Manglona conducted a 19-day bench trial in this case.

Manglona earlier determined that JYC, SYC, and Hwang were Xuan's employers for purposes of the FLSA because Xuan worked for JYC as a tour driver, for SYC at its Seaman's Restaurant, and reported directly to Hwang as her supervisor. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

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Kia Forte LX retail price $17,995.00 less 20% downpayment. Financing at 5.40% APR for 72 monthly payments of $234.53 or $108.25 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred payment $16,886.20.
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Larson: Customs enforcement is key to recovery

Strictly enforcing the programs of the Division of Customs would further help the CNMI economy, which has already improved after being stagnant more than five years ago, according to Finance Secretary Larrisa Larson.

"The division's [Customs] enforcement program is critical to the CNMI's economic recovery. A better system in evaluation of goods will help Customs improve its operation," said Larson in last Tuesday's meeting with Jeff Blackburn at the Customs office at the Saipan seaport. Customs director Jose Mafnas was also at the meeting.

Blackburn is a trade and customs consultant hired by the Oceania Customs Organization, where the CNMI is among the 24 member countries in the region.

The CNMI Customs division collected a total of $43.3 million in taxes in fiscal year 2016, a 24.9-percent jump from last year's $32.5 million. The $10.8-million increase made up for the decline in the government's other revenues.

Larson said that importation and reevaluation of goods and other commodities contributed to the increase.

That's why cross-border collaboration is needed among the OCO members, she said. "Cross-border collaboration is the easiest way to combine resources, especially when we have limitation and with this collaboration we can keep our border safer."

That's where Blackburn comes in, with the consultant observing the system used by CNMI Customs. He monitored how Customs officers check the contents of a container and assessed their performance so he could come up with recommendations.

"I'm more involved in business and trade. Customs officers examine and identify goods and resources that are coming in. That's why I assessed on how things are done here and make recommendations on what needs to be done," said Blackburn.

"Part of the process of developing the strategic plan is to conduct interviews and assessments in the Customs jurisdiction. There would be lots of observations that needed to be made to know what OCO could do to address the various challenges in specific Customs operation."

He added OCO would look into how Customs assess imported goods to improve its trade reviews and tariff collection.

Mafnas said his division would implement the system that Blackburn and OCO would suggest to further improve their revenue collection and border security. "The main focus of OCO is to help us align with international standard and best practices.

"I was in Fiji a few weeks ago and I saw the strategic plan that I think would be vital for our operations. That is something that we need to embrace and adopt here. We expect the strategic plan to be completed in March next year." ***(Jon Perez)***

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Judge recuses self from Dynasty suit

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona has recused herself from handling the lawsuit filed by about 500 foreign workers against the owners of the now-defunct Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino over the denial of their CNMI-only Transitional Worker (CW-1) petitions.

In an order of self-recusal on Wednesday, Manglona said the counsel for Hong Kong Entertainment (Overseas) Investment Ltd. and Mega Stars Overseas Limited recently became involved in a separate litigation involving her family trust.

"I must disqualify myself from the above proceedings in order to avoid any appearance of partiality," Manglona said.

Attorney Daniel Guidotti is counsel for HKE and Mega Stars.

Manglona said U.S. District Court for the NMI Magistrate Judge Heather Kennedy is available to conduct all proceedings in this civil action.

Manglona said the judgment may then be appealed directly to the U.S. Court of Appeals like any other judgment.

Manglona said a magistrate judge may exercise case dispositive authority only if all parties voluntarily consent.

Attorney Samuel Mok, counsel for the foreign workers, and Guidotti, counsel for HKE and Mega Stars Overseas Limited, filed early this week a stipulation to move discovery cutoff and status conference in this case.

Mok and Guidotti disclosed in the stipulation that HKE and Mega Stars have ongoing discovery issues as they no longer have any employees working in the CNMI and that water and power to Tinian Dynasty Hotel have been cut off.

In their lawsuit, Eric Dona and co-plaintiffs alleged that the owners and management of Tinian Dynasty lied to them about their immigration legal status.

Mok alleged that the owners and management of Tinian Dynasty lied that they were legally authorized to work, notwithstanding the denial of their CW-1 petitions. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

CSC, OPM hold strategic planning retreat

Officers and employees of the Civil Service Commission and Office of Personnel Management recently participated in a joint retreat at the Coral Ocean Golf Resort.

"It was very challenging and difficult but a very worthwhile learning experience," said commission vice chair Felicitas "Tee" Abraham. "We had all of the commission and the key staff of [OPM] sitting down together in a planning session for the very first time ever. I recommend that all boards and commissions, with their key staff, undergo this exercise."

The commission sponsored the three-day retreat, Nov. 16-18, to conduct a strategic planning session. Both the commission and OPM worked to review and revise the commission and OPM's joint statements of their mission, vision, and values. The group then took their guidance from these statements and analyzed their internal and external environments to develop a strategic projection, with goals and objectives for the upcoming three-year period. The strategic planning session was facilitated by commission consultant Frank Gibson.

Commission chair Herman R. Deleon Guerrero cited their accomplishments to include the end of the regulatory freeze on promotion and reallocation of salary increases, working with Gov. Ralph DLG Torres to improve the compensation of civil service employees, and developing an updated civil service salary schedule, soon to be on the governor's desk for his approval. He also emphasized the intent to continue to work closely with the Legislature and the governor on behalf of civil service employees.

"Our goals and objectives as commissioners are numerous and the matters that we face range from the simplest to the most complex. Nonetheless, with commitment and the willingness to serve, we will strive to achieve our goals and objectives," he added.

Acting governor Victor Hocog joined the commission on the final day of the event and met with participants, supporting the intent of the retreat and praising its accomplishments.

Commission board members are Deleon Guerrero, Abraham; Charles M. Calvo (Saipan), Arsene M. Borja (Tinian), Catalina L. Tebit (Saipan) and Valerie Q. Apatang (Rota). One commissioner position for Saipan remains to be appointed by the governor. ***(PR)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Civil Service Commission chair Herman Deleon Guerrero address retreat participants.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

CNMI Republican Party general membership meeting

CNMI Republican Party president James Ada is calling for a general membership meeting on Monday, Dec. 19, 2016, at 5:30pm at the Minatchom Atdao Pavillion. The meeting will include the election of officers. ***(PR)***

Join the annual Christmas Bird Count

On Monday, Dec. 19, birders are invited to participate in Saipan's Annual Christmas Bird Count. The CNMI Division of Fish and Wildlife has organized local counts for over 25 years. Volunteers will meet at 6am at the American Memorial Park to divide into teams for roadside and walking surveys. Bring binoculars if you have them, but it's okay if you don't. For more information, contact Steve Mullin at 664-6011 or smullin.cnmi.dfw@gmail.com, or visit http://www.cnmidfw.com/. ***(PR)***

Wage and salary statement workshop

The Division of Revenue and Taxation, Department of Finance will be conducting a workshop for the Annual Wage and Salary Statement, Form (W-2CM) for tax year 2016 and other 2016 yearend filing requirements. The workshop will be on Friday, Dec. 16, 2016. The first seminar will be from 8am to 11am and the second will be from 1pm to 4pm at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center. Businesses, employers and all payroll service companies are encouraged to attend. Please confirm your attendance by calling the Division of Revenue and Taxation at 664-1000 and 664-1098 or fax at 664-1015. ***(PR)***

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J-Boog and company visit CSR team

By MICHAEL T SANTOS
michael.santos@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Members of the Corporate Social Responsibility team of Imperial Pacific International, Ltd. got a pleasant surprise yesterday afternoon when Hawaiian musical artist J-Boog and several other performers visited their office.

Geri Dela Cruz, CSR executive director, said, "It was a wonderful feeling. The staff was really excited and happy. [It's] not everyday [that] you get visited by performers like that so I think it was a great treat for them."

J-Boog and about 25 other people participating in his upcoming concert visited the CSR team.

"The visit was great! Everyone was very welcoming. The hospitality was great; we're just having a good time. It's been real sunny out there, a great time for a show," said J-Boog.

"Imperial Pacific became a sponsor to the concert the moment they heard about it. It's the holidays and they always want to do something for the community. What better way than to bring in someone who they know will make everyone happy? We'll definitely be at the concert, we want to be there actually," Dela Cruz said.

The concert's promoter, Steven Brownstein, said, "The visit today is something not often done by artists. To visit business establishments, it was definitely a new experience and we're glad they decided to come here. The enthusiasm of all the employees was simply overwhelming."

Brownstein hosts concerts as well as community events on island.

"There is a large fan base for all four of those performers. Each one of them is a headliner themselves. Every one of them has a desire to come and since it's Christmas time we packaged them as one group and then Guam the next night," Brownstein said.

"Thank you guys [fans] for bringing us here to Saipan. We love you all! We love the weather, we love the food, and we just want to get on that stage and show just how much we appreciate everyone. The event will be a great chance to just let your hair down and relax," J-boog said

The concert will be held tonight, Dec. 9, at the Laolao Bay Golf Resort. Aside from J-Boog, it also includes artists like Anuhea, Jimmy Weeks Project, and Mike Love.

Rota sets sobriety checkpoints

The Department of Public Safety's Traffic Section will be conducting sobriety checkpoints on the dates and time listed below:

■ Friday, Dec. 9, 2016:

1. First setup: 7:30pm to 8:45pm, San Francisco Highway, Sonton area

2. Second setup: 9:30pm to 10:45pm, San Francisco Highway, Guata area

■ Saturday, Dec. 10, 2016:

1. First setup: 7pm to 8:15pm, San Francisco Highway, Teteto

2. Second setup, 9pm to 10:15pm, San Francisco Highway, Igua area

3. Third setup: 11pm to 12am, San Francisco Highway, Pinatang

■ Wednesday, Dec. 21, 2016:

1. First setup: 7pm to 8:15pm, San Francisco Highway, Uyulan by Rota Hotel

2. Second setup: 9pm to 10:15pm, San Francisco Highway by Sinapalo 3 park

3. Third setup: 11pm to 12:15am, San Francisco Highway, Sonton area

■ Thursday, Dec. 22, 2016:

1. First setup: 7pm to 8:15pm, San Francisco Highway, Lotgan area

2. Second setup: 9pm to 10:15pm, San Francisco Highway, Tatachog area

3. Third setup: 11pm to 12:15am, San Francisco Highway, Guata area

■ Friday, Dec. 23, 2016:

1. First setup: 7pm to 8:15pm, San Francisco Highway, Igua area

2. Second setup: 9pm to 10:15pm, San Francisco Highway, Uyulan area

3. Third setup: 11pm to 12:15am, San Francisco Highway, Teteto area

■ Wednesday, Dec. 28, 2016:

1. First setup: 7pm to 8:15pm, San Francisco Highway by Pinatang Park

2. Second setup: 9pm to 10:15pm, San Francisco Highway by Guata beach

3. Third setup: 11pm to 12:15am, San Francisco Highway by Sinapalo 3

■ Friday, Dec. 30, 2016:

1. First setup: 7pm to 8:15pm, San Francisco Highway, Igua area

2. Second setup: 9pm to 10:15pm, San Francisco Highway by Teteto beach

3. Third setup: 11pm to 12:15am, San Francisco Highway, Lotgan area

■ Saturday, Dec. 31, 2016:

1. First setup: 7pm to 8:15pm, San Francisco Highway by Sinapalo 3

2. Second setup: 9pm to 10:15pm San Francisco highway by Guata beach

3.Third setup: 11pm to 12:15am, San Francisco Highway by Pinatang Park.

Each checkpoint will last at least 75 minutes (1 hour and 15 minutes). ***(DPS)***

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*** Breakfast: 7:00am-10:00am * Lunch: 11:30am-2:00pm *Sunday Brunch: 11:00am-2:00pm *Dinner: 5:30pm-9:00pm**

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				12/1	12/2 Buffet Lunch $14 *Seafood & Sushi Night* *Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)*	12/3 *Seafood & Sushi Night* *Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)*
12/4 **Sunday Brunch $22** *Seafood & Sushi Night* *Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)*	12/5	12/6 *Seafood & Sushi Night* *Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)*	12/7 Buffet Lunch $14 *Seafood & Sushi Night* *Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)*	12/8	12/9 Buffet Lunch $14 *Seafood & Sushi Night* *Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)*	12/10 *Seafood & Sushi Night* *Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)*
12/11 **Sunday Brunch $22** *Seafood & Sushi Night* *Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)*	12/12	12/13 *Seafood & Sushi Night* *Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)*	12/14 Buffet Lunch $14 *Seafood & Sushi Night* *Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)*	12/15	12/16 Buffet Lunch $14 *Seafood & Sushi Night* *Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)*	12/17 *Seafood & Sushi Night* *Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)*
12/18 **Sunday Brunch $22** *Seafood & Sushi Night* *Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)*	12/19	12/20 *Seafood & Sushi Night* *Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)*	12/21 Buffet Lunch $14 *Seafood & Sushi Night* *Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)*	12/22	12/23 **Christmas Brunch $25** *Seafood & Sushi Night* *Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)*	12/24 **Christmas Brunch $25** *Seafood & Sushi Night* *Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)*
12/25 **Christmas Brunch $25** *Seafood & Sushi Night* *Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)*	12/26	12/27 *Seafood & Sushi Night* *Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)*	12/28 Buffet Lunch $14 *Seafood & Sushi Night* *Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)*	12/29	12/30 *Seafood & Sushi Night* *Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)*	12/31 *Year-end Brunch $25* *Seafood & Sushi Night* *Reg.: $35 (Local: $25)* *Count-down Party 10:00 - 00:30*

* *Our **"Dolphin"** restaurant (10th floor of Crystal Tower in Grandvrio Resort Saipan) has reopened as A-La-Carte restaurant. Welcome to enjoy fast & nice Lunch Menu ($8~) and authentic Japanese Shabu Shabu or Sukiyaki for your dinner ($35). "Spectacular Ocean view and Sunset!" **Starting from Nov. 07, 2016, our Dolphin restaurant brings out "Daily Chef's Special Lunch" from Mon. to Fri.; everyday is different; $12 only, 15 servings per day; First in First Out!** Opening time: Everyday Lunch: 11:30am-2:00pm Last Order: 1:30pm / Dinner 5:30pm-9:00pm Last Order : 8:30pm*

* ***"Starlight BBQ"** Dinner Buffet Location: Poolside Price: Reg. AD $39 CH: $19 (Local: AD $35/ CH $17) Business hrs: 6:00-9:00pm*
*Menu: " All you can eat & drink" - beers, red & white wine, soft drinks, oolong tea and juices. **Additional Champagne for Christmas!!!***

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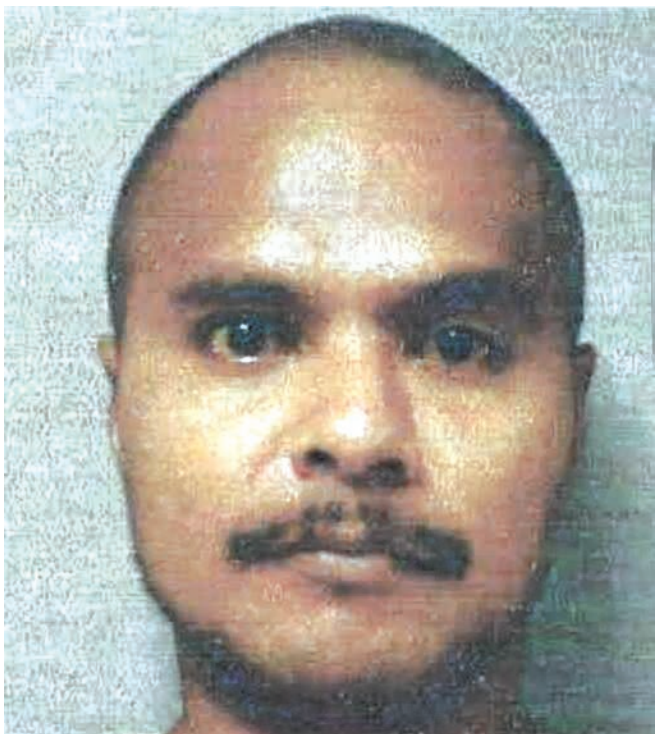
CRIME OF THE WEEK

Wanted: Moses Martin



Crime Stoppers is seeking the public's help for a wanted person. On Monday, Dec. 5, 2016, NMI Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho signed an arrest warrant for Moses Martin, a Palauan male, 35. The charges are for illegal possession of a controlled substance. Bail is set at $50,000. Law enforcement officers are searching for Martin. He is still at large. If spotted, do not approach; call 911 or Crime Stoppers should you wish to remain anonymous.

According to a Crime Stoppers notice, Martin is about 5'7" tall, weighs 155 lbs, has black short hair and brown eyes.

DPS and Crime Stoppers need your help. Please contact the Crime Stoppers hotline at 234-7272 should you want to remain anonymous or use our website at www.nmicrimestoppers.net Crime stoppers pays up to $1,000 for any information leading to an arrest. It pays to call. ***(Crime Stoppers)***

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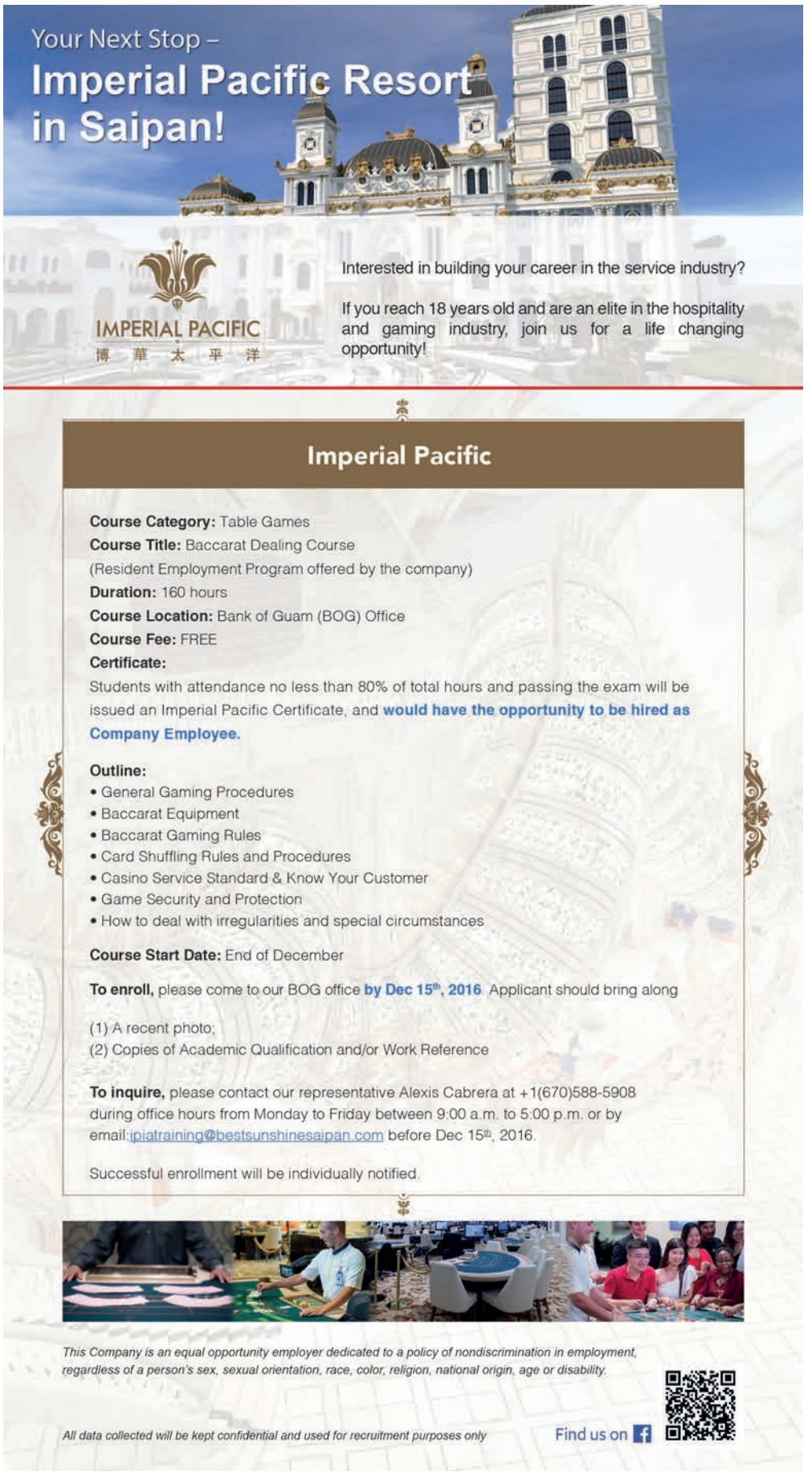
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Int'l groups to stage Global Day of Prayer on Dec. 11

Members of various international groups in different parts of the world will hold hands in prayer on Dec. 11, 2016, for the challenges the Philippines and the Filipino people are currently facing.

Dubbed as "Araw ng Panalangin Para sa Katotohanan, Katarungan at Demokrasya" the global initiative is a collaboration of BAYANi-Bayan Bago Sarili, Global Coalition of Filipinos for Good Governance (GCF4GG), Filipino American Human Rights Alliance, and U.S. Pinoys for Good Governance Marianas.

The global day of prayer is meant "to seek divine mercy and intervention for the social and political challenges the Philippines is currently facing," said Dr. Celia Lamkin, co-founder and chairperson of BAYANi-Bayan Bago Sarili.

"Our members and international community will pray and seek divine guidance as the Philippines and its people face the many challenges in these trying times. We also call on the rest of our fellow Filipinos to pause and join us in prayer in their respective homes, places of work and worship," said Edwin Calawod, co-founder and vice-chair of BAYANi.

The event in the Philippines will be held at Our Lady of Loreto Parish Church in Sampaloc, Manila, at 9:15am and at other churches in Metro Manila.

There will be Masses and Sunday services on Saipan, Tinian, Rota, Guam, American Samoa, San Francisco, California, Japan, Australia, and Europe.

The remains of former Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos was buried at the National Heroes' Cemetery on Nov. 18, 2016, a surprise decision that has triggered nationwide protests. His burial is perceived by many as an attempt on history revisionism.

As of Dec. 3, there have been over 5,800 deaths, both from legitimate police operations and vigilante-style or unexplained killings.

Bordallo receives the US Air Force Distinguished Public Service Award

WASHINGTON, D.C.— Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo received yesterday the U.S. Air Force Distinguished Public Service Award. The award was presented by Secretary of the Air Force Deborah James.

Secretary of the Air Force Deborah James pins the U.S. Air Force Distinguished Public Service Award on Guam Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo yesterday. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Distinguished Public Service Award was developed to recognize distinguished Americans who have made significant contributions to the Air Force and its airmen, ensuring that the U.S. Air Force continues to be the pre-eminent air, space, and cyberspace force in the world.

The DPSA is now the highest honorary award the Secretary of the Air Force or chief of staff of the Air Force may grant to a private citizen. Eligible candidates for this award are civilians, excluding Air Force employees and contractors.

"As the ranking member of the Readiness Subcommittee and a co-chair of the Congressional Air Force Caucus and the Congressional Caucus on Long Range Strike, I have been proud to support our Air Force, and all our military services, to ensure that they have the resources they need to carry out their mission here at home and abroad. The U.S. Air Force provides critical capabilities to our services during times of conflict, supports humanitarian assistance missions, and enables American power projection throughout the world, especially in the vast Asia-Pacific region. I am particularly proud to support the men and women of our Air National Guard on Guam as well as well as the men and women of the Air Force who serve at Andersen Air Force Base. They support a wide range of requirements in the Asia-Pacific region and are important members of the Air Force family. I thank Secretary James for this award, and I look forward to continue working to ensure that the U.S. Air Force remains the pre-eminent air, space, and cyber force in the world."

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Opinion

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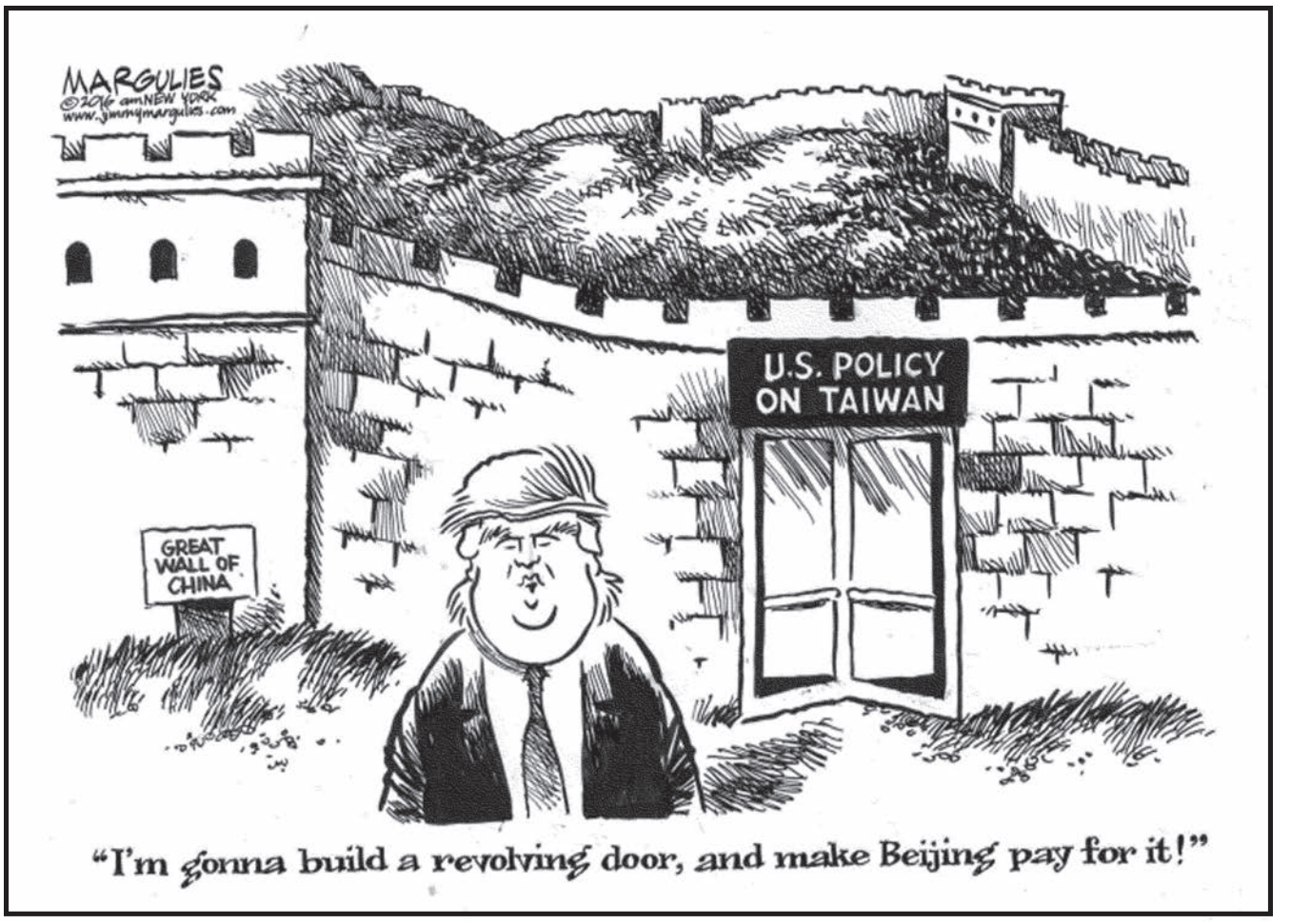
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"I'm gonna build a revolving door, and make Beijing pay for it!"

EDITORIAL

Lessons of Pearl Harbor endure

Leroy Barber grew up in rural New London, Wisconsin, hunting and fishing with two of his brothers. He enlisted in the Navy, trained at the Great Lakes facility north of Chicago and was assigned to a battleship. Barber enjoyed being a sailor, missed his brothers and advised them to join up. The Navy made an exception to its rule against putting family members on one boat—a decision their father sought to reverse—but America was not at war, and Hawaii was about as far from Europe's fighting as you could get.

That's how the Barber boys, Malcolm, 22, Leroy, 21 and Randolph, 19, came to serve together as firemen on the USS Oklahoma. And that is how they died—together, on the morning of Dec. 7, 1941—75 years ago Wednesday—when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor and drew America into World War II.

"We are not bitter, but there is one thing neither of us can forgive," Peter Barber, their father, told the Tribune in May 1942. "We were at peace when the attack started. Our boys didn't even know about it. They must have been caught below decks without any chance to fight back. If they had known—if we had been on guard—they would have returned fire and they might not all have died."

Many wars are remembered and battles commemorated. But only two dates on the calendar awaken recollections of a sneak attack on American territory by an undeclared enemy. One is Sept. 11, which was 15 years ago this year. And then there is Dec. 7, "a date which will live in infamy," as President Franklin Roosevelt told Congress in a national radio broadcast the next afternoon. A few hours later, the United States declared war on Japan. A few days later, the U.S. declared war on Germany.

The attack on Pearl Harbor was a surprise, but it was foreshadowed. In 1941, America was attempting to check Japanese aggression in China through economic sanctions. The U.S. knew from a code-breaking operation known as "Magic" that Japan was girding for war. Conflict seemed inevitable, but officials in Washington missed the signals that war was imminent, and never guessed Hawaii would be a target. The American public also was unprepared.

On Dec. 1, the Tribune reported that ongoing negotiations to halt Japan's expansionist moves were at a critical juncture, but there was a distant, theoretical tone to the warning. The U.S., having backed Britain in Europe, was already engaged in quasi-conflict with Germany. In the Pacific, war against Japan remained an unappealing question. "The United States is not prepared to fight a war on two fronts and will not be before the completion of our two-ocean navy in 1946," the Tribune's story said.

The U.S. military was not on alert in Hawaii. Most naval personnel treated Dec. 7, a Sunday, as a day off. At about 7 a.m., just as radar operators were completing their overnight watch, they spotted a stunning concentration of aircraft coming their way—must be B-17s coming in from California, they were told.

This was the first Japanese carrier strike force of torpedo-

See LESSONS on Next Page

Rethinking Trump's key adviser on war and peace

By MARTIN SCHRAM
Tribune News Service

Martin Schram, an op-ed columnist for Tribune News Service*, is a veteran Washington journalist, author and TV documentary executive. Readers may send him email at martin.schram@gmail.com.*

Today we will be reflecting upon the most important job a president must fill to keep our homeland and our planet as safe as possible. It is a job that requires no Senate confirmation yet it goes to the one appointee who will help shape presidential decisions without the inconveniences of checks and balances.

And we will also reflect upon whether we've just witnessed a startling Trump transition team warning—one that reverses the old apple-and-tree adage: Have we just seen evidence that the tree never grows far from a fallen bad apple?

We'll get to that after we focus on the most important job each commander-in-chief must fill—the assistant to the president for national security. In times of extraordinary crises, stress and duress, presidents must rely upon their national security adviser to assure delivery of all of the often-conflicting analyses and recommendations within all the departments and agencies—State, Defense, CIA, Treasury, NSA, FBI, etc. Presidents must also rely upon their national security adviser to be a keen expert, but no strong-willed ideologue or strong-arming advocate intent upon pre-shaping his boss's decisions.

I've long thought retired Air Force Lt. Gen. Brent Scowcroft, now 91, may well have functioned as the best all-around national security adviser in the modern era. He had two tours in the job, serving President Gerald Ford and President George H.W. Bush. Scowcroft is widely admired as an insightful intellect who never became a strong-arming advocate.

I have thought a lot about Scowcroft's qualities since President-elect Donald Trump appointed Army Lt. Gen. Michael Flynn as his national security adviser.

Both Scowcroft and Flynn are retired lieutenant generals; both are intelligent; but that's where the similarities end.

Mike Flynn was a strong-willed advocate who headed the Pentagon's Defense Intelligence Agency, where his strong-armed administrative style led to his early retirement under President Barack Obama.

You may have seen him on the podium at the Republican convention on July 18, pounding home a political tirade in a manner we've seen from no one else whom we've ever addressed as "General."

"Lock her up! Yes, that's right, lock her up!" he bellowed, leading the delegates in a chant demanding the jailing of former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, his former administration colleague. "Lock her up! Lock her up! Damn right! ... There is nothing wrong with that!" Nothing except he'd seen no impartial evidence and there'd been adjudication of guilt. Such nuances and verified facts have never served as requisites for Flynn.

Nor apparently for his son, Michael Jr., who had served in the Trump transition as his dad's assistant. You might have read about Mike Jr. this week, when he was fired from his transition job. It seems he had not only tweeted fake news that alleged Hillary Clinton and her top aide John Podesta had run a child sex ring in the back of a Washington pizza joint. But even after a gunman believed the news hoax and went into the pizza place firing guns, Mike Flynn Jr. tweeted: "Until #Pizzagate proven to be false, it'll remain a story."

So the younger Flynn was promptly fired from his transition job. And that's where we must ask ourselves now if that clearly bad apple fell, isn't there a similarly irresponsible, politically-hyped tree nearby?

Yup—retired Lt. Gen. Flynn turns out to have used social media to spread assorted unproven conspiracy theories smearing Clinton and her campaign this summer and fall, before he was honored by being named by Trump to his present, most important and highly responsible job in the Trump White House. Earlier this week, Politico's Bryan Bender and Andrew Hanna published an excellent piece that laid out a series of tweets in which Gen. Flynn spread bizarre and smarmy unproven smears. Most are too slimy to recycle here. But here's one:

Politico reported that in a Nov. 2 tweet, "Flynn promoted a 'MUST READ!' post from a website called True Pundit alleging that emails found on a laptop owned by former Rep. Anthony Weiner (D-N.Y.)—the husband of top Clinton aide Huma Abedin—contained enough evidence 'to put Hillary (Clinton) and her crew away for life' for crimes including 'child exploitation' and 'sex crimes with minors.' 'U decide,' Flynn wrote. But no such emails have ever surfaced."

Gen. Colin Powell, who served as Ronald Reagan's national security adviser, George H.W. Bush's Joint Chiefs of Staff chairman, and George W. Bush's secretary of state, has made his own assessment of the general who must now provide President Trump, a policy neophyte, with level-headed judgments on war and peace.

Gen. Powell called Lt. Gen. Flynn "right-wing nutty."

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General Tso and the Big Mac

By ED STEPHENS
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Visit Ed Stephens Jr. at EdStephensJr.com. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.

If you're doing things right, you gained as much weight as possible in November so that you have a good base to build on for December's feasts. I am pleased to provide leadership by example on this note. Well, maybe "pleased" isn't the right term, but there's no doubt that I'm well-qualified.

But today we'll drop our napkins for a while as we consider two culinary luminaries who recently passed away, both at the age of 98. These are the Michael "Jim" Delligatti, inventor of the Big Mac; and Peng Chang-kuei, inventor of General Tso's Chicken.

The Big Mac is so famous that it needs no introduction on Saipan or anywhere else. But the very ubiquity that makes it unremarkable is, of course, remarkable. The Big Mac hasn't always existed. Somebody had to invent it.

And that somebody was Delligatti. He invented the Big Mac in 1967, unveiling it at a franchise he owned in Uniontown, Penn. The following year it went nationwide on the McDonald's menu.

By the 1970s all my pals and I could name the Big Mac's ingredients. They were enumerated in an advertising jingle: "Two all-beef patties, special sauce, lettuce, cheese, pickles, onions on a sesame-seed bun."

I've since had many a time in strange, far-away lands when a Big Mac was my only touchstone of Americana, so I've always had a real appreciation for this product. I don't eat many of them these days, but I like knowing that they're there when the need arises.

The Big Mac is such a homogenous and common product that it has significance in economic analysis. As I point out from time to time, the Big Mac serves as a measure of purchasing power between various national currencies. This is called the Big Mac Index. It was invented by *The Economist* magazine in 1986. One reason I like the index is that it's a lighthearted approach (that characterization is from *The Economist* magazine itself), so you're free to take it as seriously, or as not seriously, as you care to. There is real juice to the concept though, so it's not just a lark.

We now aim the gimlet eye of gastronomy at Taiwan, where, according to the Taiwan News website, restaurateur Peng Chang-kuei concocted an ad-hoc dish to serve to an American admiral in 1952. Peng dubbed the dish "General Tao's Chicken," so named for a famous Chinese general from back in the day. Another restaurateur eventually introduced the dish in New York. Its popularity spread throughout the U.S. from there.

In summary, then, it was not a traditional Chinese dish, but was something concocted for contemporary American palates. So it's more Peoria than it is Peking.

You've got to admire the winding way of the world's trade routes. The American hinterlands are serving "General Tso's Chicken" in strip malls; meanwhile, Colonel Sanders has claimed a lot of Asian market share as he hawks "KFC" fried chicken. I haven't received any dispatches from Cap'n Crunch, but he must be somewhere out there.

One thing about Saipan that can spoil you is the variety of little restaurants that have some genuine character. Come to think of it, I guess I could say that about most places I've been to in the west Pacific. Were you to be dropped into the broad expanse of mid-America, though, you might not feel so spoiled; outside of the usual chain restaurants, there isn't much action in some places. I once spent a few weeks on a business trip where the best food in the area was the sandwiches at the local truck stop. To this day I have no idea where those sandwiches came from. They just appeared at random intervals on a dingy shelf between the sinus spray and batteries.

Well, if that bleak scene doesn't make you appreciate what's on your plate this holiday season, I guess nothing will. So let's grab our forks and get on with things, shall we?

Hokog must resign now!

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the* Saipan Tribune.

Japanese investor Takahisa Yamamoto alleges that as former senator Biktot Hokog promised him "influence peddling" to ensure his business stays "profitable" on Rota.

The use of influence peddling is illegal. Court proceedings should reveal how Hokog used his new tool that bears the stench of corruption. In the process he delegitimizes the democratic process. Influence peddling is illegal here too per the local ethics law! Did you get that pal or "not yet, already?

Remember the famous influence peddling case of a former Illinois governor who was convicted and sentenced to 14 years in prison?

Moreover, there's the ongoing case of the president of South Korea of a friend's alleged use of influence peddling extracting money from businesses.

It looks like Mr. Yamamoto has started reeling in the big fish, one at a time! I'll join you reinstitute a government of laws here, sir!

The pile of alleged influence peddling makes it mandatory that Hokog resigns immediately. If he's had any social conscience left, then he must step down now to safe himself, family and our people from any further humiliation!

EVERbody Home? It is rumored that teachers in Garapan and Tanapag elementary schools have been instructed to measure the exact size of their classrooms.

It's an instruction that piques my interest, quizzing, why? Is there a plan to grant the two school sites to a favorite business firm? Such a plan means complete relocation in the absence of the will and consent of parents but PSS! What's wrong with the current arrangement?

The PTA of each school must weigh in on the issue. Your voice matters as members of the immediate community. Say your piece in forthright fashion. Silence isn't the answer in this and in every other issue affecting the needs of students and families in the two villages.

Attribution fatally missing

The cool winter breeze and birds singing lovely tunes nearby provided the opportunity for some creative scribbles. I bumped into public officials from here before a congressional appropriation subcommittee justifying more money for NMI needs. It was fun listening to viciously serious queries versus shallow and nervous answers from the Marianas Boysis.

As officials make last minute review of documents, someone asked if there's any success to bringing President-elect Trump to the hearing. Disappointed to learn that Trump is in Pennsylvania Avenue and not on Capital Hill.

When the gavel came down, the subcommittee chair briefly explained that the federal government is in a fiscal crisis, drowning in the swamp of some $20 trillion in the red or deficit. Then Gov. Raffy was asked to make his presentation in brief form.

Essentially he said the NMI needs more than $200 million in CIP funds for water, power, sewer and roads. He was basically pleading a round of believable *mea culpa* as members nodded heads politely with deathly sanctimonious smiles.

Asked a member: "Reportedly, your casino industry made some $13.5 billion over the last year. Did you tax at least some portion of this humongous revenue for your purposes?"

Replied Torres, "Not yet, already!" He probably meant we know about it but it isn't your business what we tax or don't tax!

"Don't you think that in the exercise of self-government taxing the industry is the responsible thing to do?" continued the member from Nevada.

Said Torres, "Not yet, already."

"Sir! The sum of $13.5 billion didn't show, in any form or fashion, that its strength is embryonic and taxing at least 5 percent of the gross would have forced aborting your pitiful appearance here this morning, agree?" came the pointed declaration from a committee member.

Torres, "Until my next junket trip, sir!" He's now in Honolulu to lift ships from Pearl Harbor using the MV *Luta*.

A study by the Heritage Foundation recommends cuts in SNAP and other federal assistance programs, leaving the states to pay the bulk of the cost. The NMI must brace for cuts in SNAP, Medicaid, voucher housing program, and other grants for CHC and PSS including CUC.

Uncle Sam knows the NMI is walking very pretty with $13.5 billion it failed to tax BSI. It's time to do it and shove "Not yet, already" into your back pockets. Has anyone taken stock how much would these cuts cost the NMI? Or is it another case inclusive in our new refrain, "Not yet, already?"

Trump is set to begin upgrading basic infrastructure across the country. I doubt that the NMI is on his list. He and members of Congress are fully wary that the casino industry here is raking in billions of dollars.

Tax it now to secure funds to pay for everything from basic infrastructure, healthcare, education, retirement, and debts. With $695 million from BSI there's no reason we can't meet our needs and not from the backs of hardworking taxpayers across the country! Halo? EVERbody home? Paying the requisite tax is the responsible thing to realistically give meaningful credence to fulfilling Corporate Social Responsibility! Is BSI or the IRS anywhere near imperial Crapital Hill?

Fickle memory: It is said that the dead live beyond the grave. We remember their words, deeds and legacy. All these are placed in our personal repository known as memory. Sadly, it could also shift into collective waiver or fickleness triggering queries without answers.

Was the recent midterm election founded on the so-called "success" of Republicans? What success is there to even use it as an illusory crutch?

Understood that people may have been herded like sheep to settle for the status quo. It's a difficult issue given the tons of articulated expressions for change. It goes to show that memory was woefully fragile in the last midterm election. It was bankrolled, therefore, superbly fickle!

LESSONS

From Page 14

and dive-bombers, escorted by Zero fighters. The Japanese attack, completed in two waves in less than two hours, destroyed most of the U.S. military planes on the island of Oahu and devastated the U.S. Pacific fleet. Most of the ships' anti-aircraft guns were unmanned. A few heroic American pilots got off the ground to shoot down Zeros, but the day marked a humiliating and painful entrance to the war.

The Barber brothers were among 2,300 U.S. service members killed.

Firsthand descriptions of Dec. 7 have dwindled as survivors depart us, but the lesson of Pearl Harbor endures. In 1941, the United States failed to anticipate Japanese aggression. In 2001, terrorists intensified a slow-burning war against American civilians that had started years earlier and continues today. Despite America's great power and comparative isolation on the map, it is vulnerable to the enemies it has, and the ones it may have.

Our nation forgets that at its peril.

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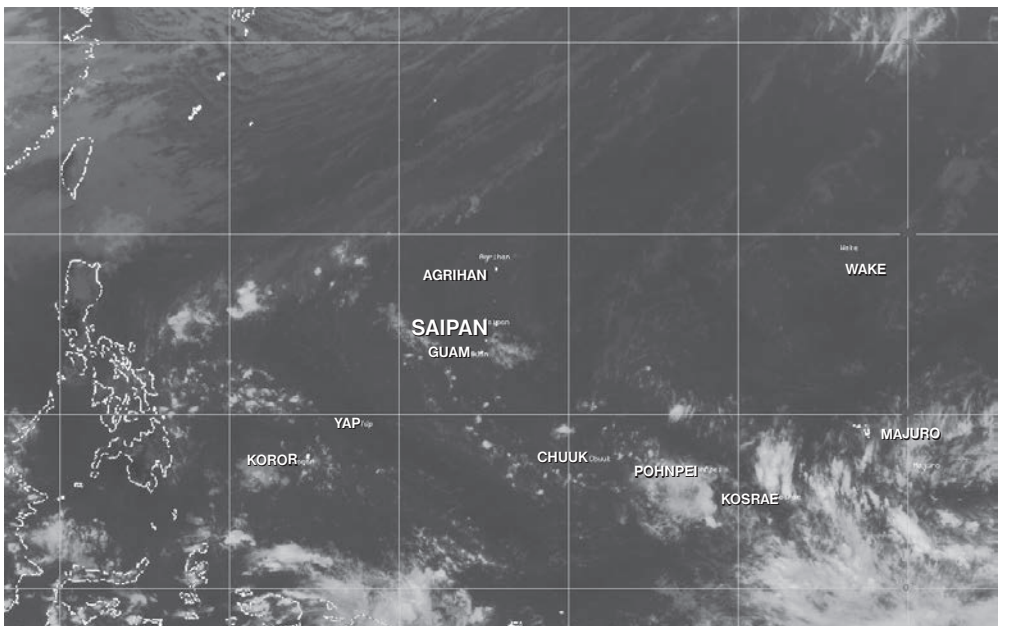
The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲89° ▼79°	▲89° ▼78°	▲89° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°	▲88° ▼78°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 5:47 AM, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2016
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Radar and satellite show a trade-wind disturbance approaching Guam and Rota from the east with scattered showers and even some isolated thunderstorms, with occasional lightning indicated in the lightning detection data. On the other hand, skies are partly cloudy over Tinian and Saipan, with little in the way of showers. Seas are running 6-7 ft at the buoys, with moderate trades.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▼ ▲
Guam and Rota	Sunny	81 / 88 °F
Palau	Mostly cloudy	80 / 86 °F
Yap	Mostly cloudy	80 / 89 °F
Chuuk	Partly cloudy	78 / 86 °F
Pohnpei	Partly cloudy	79 / 85 °F
Kosrae	Afternoon clouds	82 / 87 °F
Majuro	Mostly sunny	83 / 86 °F

AROUND THE GLOBE		▼ ▲
Auckland	Mostly sunny	61 / 73 °F
Beijing	High level clouds	17 / 36 °F
Hong Kong	Morning clouds	59 / 74 °F
Honolulu	Partly cloudy	67 / 77 °F
London	Partly cloudy	53 / 57 °F
Los Angeles	Haze	54 / 66 °F
Manila	Partly sunny	79 / 90 °F
Melbourne	Mostly sunny	52 / 61 °F
Miami	Light showers	70 / 74 °F
New York	Increasing cloudiness	31 / 39 °F
Osaka	Mostly sunny	40 / 58 °F
Paris	Morning clouds	36 / 49 °F
Pusan	Morning clouds	37 / 53 °F
Rome	High level clouds	32 / 56 °F
Salem	Light rain	40 / 45 °F
San Francisco	Light rain	57 / 60 °F
Seoul	Partly cloudy	25 / 45 °F
Tokyo	Partly cloudy	37 / 61 °F
Washington, DC	Mostly sunny	27 / 39 °F

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- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		
2:45 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.39 Feet
8:41 AM	LOW TIDE	0.5 Feet
3:20 PM	HIGH TIDE	2.01 Feet
10:16 PM	LOW TIDE	0.36 Feet

	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:32 AM	5:47 PM
Saturday	6:32 AM	5:47 PM
Sunday	6:33 AM	5:48 PM
Monday	6:33 AM	5:48 PM
Tuesday	6:34 AM	5:48 PM

	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	1:18 AM	1:45 PM
Saturday	-	2:15 AM	2:32 PM
Sunday	-	3:14 AM	3:22 PM
Monday	-	4:16 AM	4:15 PM
Tuesday	-	5:19 AM	5:13 PM

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF DECEMBER 5, 2016

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA6394	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA6392	8:40am	9:30am	Daily
UA6391	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA6390	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6
UA6398	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily
UA6396	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA6391	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA6391	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL297	4:20pm	7:00pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily
LJ652	2:10pm	6:05pm	Daily
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	1:30am	6:35am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ626/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA6394/191	4:15am	8:55am	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA6394/PR111	4:15am	9:15am	1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
PR1572	5:45am	7:45am	7, 4
UA6391/183	1:30pm	8:50pm	5 via Rota-GUM
UA6391/183	1:30pm	9:10pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM
UA6391/193	1:30pm	10:35pm	5 via Rota-GUM-ROR
UA6390/183	2:20pm	8:50pm	2 via GUM
UA6390/183	2:20pm	9:10pm	3, 6 via GUM
UA6390/193	2:20pm	10:35pm	2 via GUM-ROR

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4
OZ626/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA6391/159	1:30pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM
UA6390/159	2:20pm	9:55pm	3, 6 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA6393	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA6395	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA6391	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA6390	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA6397	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA6399	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA6390	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA6390	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:30am	3:05pm	Daily

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

LJ651	7:30am	1:10pm	Daily
7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	4:40pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA190/6397	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/625	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR1571	10:25pm	4:45am+1	3, 6
UA192/6395	9:45pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via ROR-GUM
PR110/UA6395	10:05pm	8:05am+1	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/6395	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/6395	11:30pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/625	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
HX076	5:30pm	12:30am+1	3, 7
UA116/6395	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju Air; HX: Hong Kong Airlines; LJ: Jin Air; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure;ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
6:30AM	6:45AM	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
12:30NN	12:45NN	Daily
1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily
6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
12:00NN	12:15NN	Daily
1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO ROTA

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:00PM	4:30PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

ROTA TO SAIPAN

DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
8:30AM	9:00AM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
4:45PM	5:15PM	Mon, Tues,Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I donut niid edukashun; I hab kommon cents

Part of a series.

We take a short-term view of the economy and money—we lease our land. Off-islanders take a longer view—they lease our land but create cash-generating business machines. We thought we did well selling the casino license and leasing land to BSI. But who's generating $1.4 billion plus per quarter?

I'm not saying that I think anyone or any group here could put together $7.1 billion or have the skillset to create a casino industry on the scale that Mark Brown has in mind. But could we invest instead of watching outsiders invest? We could have. (1) A number of us made millions back in the day of the garment factories. But it disappeared and only partially finished buildings remain. (2) Just a few years ago, there was a retirement distribution...but we bought cars and went to Guam on shopping sprees instead of reinvesting that money. (3) We have large families. People from India who've settled in the U.S. now own many motels and convenience stores. How? They have extended families too. And those families pool their money for one part of the family to purchase a business—a "cash-generating machine." (4) We enticed BSI here but did we negotiate, as part of the arrangement, that they would source 60 percent of their building materials and furnishings locally? There's a billion lost. Did we negotiate their use of locally-owned (51 percent minimum, living locally) businesses for their ancillary needs (restaurants, tour operators, and on and on and on)? Over the life of their license, this would amount to billions directed into the local economy but more importantly, lest we forget, into the pockets of locals. Too late on Saipan. Maybe it's not too late for Tinian and Rota.

Do you want to own the printing press that's printing money or get a job operating it? The off-island owner will take our trees to make the paper, use our minerals to produce the ink, then because we won't work, bring in outsiders to provide the sweat-equity to earn the money. Is this what beetle nut, or marijuana, or ice does to us? Or is it "cultural"?

We think that leasing our land is a good thing. But we're so greedy, we have a hard time setting a price and signing a contract. But what is a real shame is that we don't seem to realize that there are other ways to make money with our land, public and private. How? (5) Create joint ventures. This would be where the local landowner contributes his/her land in exchange for (partial) ownership of the business. Instead of a one-time payment (or, in some cases, BSI makes payments on land leases), you get a part of the cash-creating machine, maybe a job (if you're qualified) and the family benefits as well. Advice given—we don't listen or act—it's over.

Well, we're full circle. Education. We need it and we need more of it. If you're going to build an economy in the CNMI, would you use the "common sense" guys/gals or would you want those who are wide and deep in wisdom? They're not the same!

This is not the stuff of walking the island and picking a new village site close to fishing, hunting, and "farming." Many of our so-called farmers really don't want to farm. That's why outsiders can come and see so many agricultural opportunities. And we want to expand northward to do what? Create investment opportunities for outsiders or decimate the natural resources there as we have done here? So where's the common sense in all this?

Arnold J. Mesa
Chinatown, Saipan

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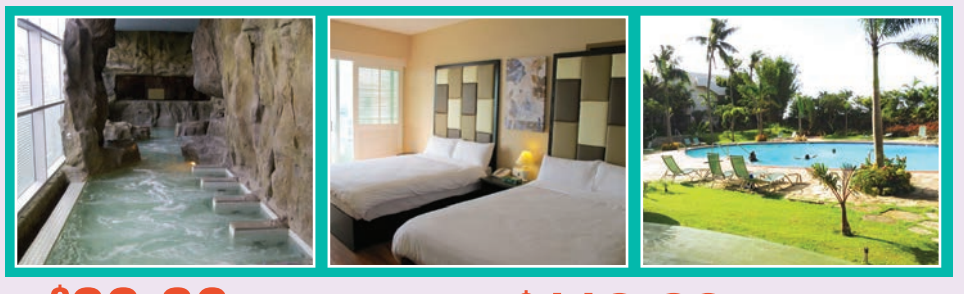

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Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
State Rehabilitation Council
P.O. Box 501521 Saipan, MP 96950 • Tel.: (670) 322-6537 • Fax: (670) 322-6548
TTY: (670) 322-6449 • E-Mail: nmidir@ovrgov.net

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC §9910, the State Rehabilitation Council will hold its FY 2017 First General Membership Meeting on Wednesday, December 14, 2016 at the Kanoa Resort-Latte Stone Room (Saipan) from 4:00 pm – 6:00 p.m. Interested individuals are welcome to attend.

AGENDA

I. Call to Order
II. Roll Call
III. Review and Adoption of Agenda of December 14, 2016
IV. Review and Adoption of FY 2016 Joint SRC and SILC Fourth General Membership Meeting Minutes of September 16, 2016
V. Reports
- **a.** SRC Chairperson
- **b.** Quality Assurance/Quality Improvement Committee Chairperson
- **c.** Employment and Marketing Committee Chairperson
- **d.** Transition and Assistive Technology Committee Chairperson
- **e.** Transportation, Housing, and Advocacy Committee Chairperson
- **f.** OVR Director

VI. Action Items
- **a.** Ratification/Approval of SRC FY 2017 Resource Plan, as amended October 14, 2016
- **b.** Ratification/Approval of SRC/OVR FY 2016 Annual Report

VII. Consumer Forum
VIII. Miscellaneous/Announcements
- **a.** Take Your Legislator to Work Final Report by VOICES of the CNMI-Tinian Chapter

IX. Adjournment

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), individuals who wish to attend the meeting but require accommodation such as large print or sign language interpreter, are asked to call Elvira Seman at 322-6537/38 (voice) or 322-6449 (TTY) 5 days before the meeting.

/s/ ELIZABETH S. ADA, Chairperson

This advertisement is paid for with Federal funds made possible by a grant from the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Judiciary Administrative Office
Guma' Hustisia · Iimwal Aweewe · House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165 · Saipan MP 96950
T: (670) 236-9715 · F: (670) 236-9702

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Judiciary is seeking a highly motivated individual for the position of:

CASEWORKER I

Announcement # JVA17-007

DUTIES: The successful candidate will work under the supervision of the Drug Court Manager in the Drug Court Division on Saipan which is responsible for drug court assessments, case management with drug court participants and provides ongoing support to the Drug Court operation/functions. The duties of this position include, but are not limited to the following:

- Conduct intake, assessment, establish case plan for referred participants;
- Conducts program/phase orientation and inform participants of legal requirements and implications concerning treatment;
- Tracks drug tests, group attendance, individual counseling attendance, outside groups (Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous, Discovery Course) and other services;
- Provides case management;
- Coordinates/conducts individual, family and group therapeutic/educational/substance abuse treatment sessions/and crisis intervention;
- Conducts discharge planning and provides referrals for continuing treatment;
- Provides follow-up contact as needed;
- Communicates with Compliance Specialist and other Drug Court staff to secure resources for participants;
- Maintains files, records legal and case documentation in accordance with established regulatory policies and procedure;
- Attends staff meetings, in-service training, workshops, and interagency conferences to coordinate services;
- Attends Drug Court sessions as needed; and
- Performs other duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS: Candidate must have a high school diploma or equivalent and have obtained a bachelors degree from a recognized college or university in Social Work, Psychology, Sociology, or closely related field. Have three (3) years experience as a counselor in substance abuse treatment programs. Any equivalent combination of experience and training which provides the minimum knowledge, abilities and skills required for the position.

COMPENSATION AND TENURE: This position is appointed by and serves at the pleasure of the Presiding Judge. The salary will be $35,000 - $40,000 per annum.

INTERESTED PERSONS may obtain application forms at the OPM offices in the CNMI, at the Judiciary Administrative Office at the Guma Hustisia/Iimwal Aweewe/House of Justice in Susupe, or at the Superior Court offices on Tinian and Rota. Completed applications, cover letter, and three references should be submitted to:

Human Resources
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P.O. Box 502165
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel. (670)236-9818
Fax. (670) 236-9702
michelle.guerrero@justice.gov.mp

This internal job announcement will remain open until filled. Also, this job announcement can be seen and a printable copy of the application downloaded at http://www.justice.gov.mp.

THE CNMI JUDICIARY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER.

USS *Oklahoma City* returns to Guam

PETTY OFFICER 1ST CLASS JAMICA JOHNSON

Cmdr. Thomas O'Donnell, commanding officer of Los Angeles-class attack submarine USS Oklahoma City, and "Santa" greet friends and family during a homecoming celebration for the submarine.

SANTA RITA, Guam—The Los Angeles-class attack submarine USS *Oklahoma City* returned to its homeport of Apra Harbor on Dec. 8 following an eight-month engineering overhaul in San Diego, California.

Oklahoma City, under the command of Cmdr. Thomas O'Donnell, is returning to Guam after successfully completing their Docking Selected Restricted Availability on time and $4 million under budget.

"The crew has done an outstanding job during the DSRA," said O'Donnell. "I'm incredibly proud of the work they have completed to ensure we are ready to respond when and where we are needed, and I know we are all excited to be home again with our families and friends.

Oklahoma City was docked in the floating dry dock USS *Arco* in Point Loma for its overhaul, which included nuclear maintenance, a shaft replacement and a factory overhaul of the diesel generator. During the submarine's time in San Diego, the crew also welcomed a new commanding officer, with O'Donnell taking the helm in August.

"*Oklahoma City* is a great asset and brings a lot to the fight," said Capt. David Schappert, commander, Submarine Squadron 15. "Their completion of a successful maintenance period means they are ready to train and operate at the tip of the spear."

Oklahoma City was commissioned July 9, 1988, and is the second ship of the U.S. Navy named for the capital of Oklahoma. Measuring more than 360 feet long and displacing more than 6,900 tons, *Oklahoma City* has a crew of approximately 140 sailors. *Oklahoma City* is capable of supporting various missions, including anti-submarine warfare, anti-surface ship warfare, strike warfare and intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance.

Oklahoma City is a member of Commander, Submarine Squadron 15, which is located at Polaris Point in Apra Harbor, Guam. COMSUBRON 15 staff is responsible for providing training, material and personnel readiness support of four Los Angeles-class attack submarines stationed in Guam. The submarines and submarine tenders USS *Frank Cable* and USS *Emory S. Land* are part of the U.S. Navy's forward-deployed naval force and are capable of meeting global operational requirements. For more news from Commander, Submarine Squadron 15, visit http://www.csp.navy.mil/css15 and https://www.facebook.com/SubmarineSquadron15/.

Thinking of being stationed in Guam? Check out http://www.csp.navy.mil/go-guam/ for more information. ***(Commander, Submarine Squadron 15 Public Affairs)***

MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ F0122
THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC
POST OFFICE BOX 5222
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISALNDS 96950
TEL.: (670) 234-6547
FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEY FOR Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

MARIANA FISHING, INC.	:	**CIVIL ACTION**
	:	**NO. 15-0068**
Plaintiff	:	
	:	
-v-	:	
AMBROSIO T. OGUMORO,	:	
Defendant.	:	

NOTICE OF POSTPONEMENT OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN the sale of all of the right, title, and interest of Defendant in and to the motor vessel Blue Marlin I, together with her tackle and equipment, now scheduled for Friday, December 9, 2016, at 1:30p.m., is hereby postponed. A Second Amended Notice of Sale will be issued in due course.

DATED: December 7, 2016

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

JENNIFER DOCKTER
LAW OFFICE OF F. MATTHEW SMITH, LLC
2nd Floor, MIC Building, Chalan Monsignor Guerrero
San Jose Village
P.O. Box 501127
Saipan, MP 96950-1127
Telephone Nos.: (670) 234-7455 / 7427
Facsimile No.: (670) 234-7256

Attorney for Petitioner, Jean O. Rabauliman.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN RE THE ESTATE OF IRENE KOTOMAR OLOPAI-BORJA, Deceased.	**Civil Action No. 16-0242** **NOTICE OF HEARING AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS** Date: December 15, 2016 Time: 9:00 a.m. Judge: Honorable Joseph N. Camacho

TO: THE HEIRS, GENERAL PUBLIC AND CREDITORS OF THE DECEDENTS OR OF THEIR ESTATE

Notice is hereby given that the Petitioner, Jean O. Rabauliman, has filed a Petition For Probate of Will and Letters Testamentary in the above-entitled Estate proceeding pursuant to Rule NMI R. of Prob. P. 15.

A hearing on the petition will be conducted by the Court on **Thursday, December 15, 2016 at 9:00 a.m., in Courtroom 220A**, Superior Court. All persons interested are hereby notified to appear at the hearing and show cause, if any, why the order should not be made.

Pursuant to NMI R. of Prob. P. 21, notice is hereby given to all creditors of the Decedent or her Estate that they must file their claims with the Clerk of Court within sixty (60) days of the publication of this notice. A copy of the claim of any creditor should be sent to Jennifer Dockter at the above indicated address.

Reference is hereby made to the petition for further particulars.

SO NOTICED this 14th day of November 2016.

/s/ JENNIFER DOCKTER (F0465)
Attorney for Petitioner

CSR shores up beach cleanup

Imperial Pacific International, Ltd.'s Corporate Social Responsibility team continue to scour the coastal areas as part of shoring up its drive to beautify the islands. For two days, on Dec. 6 and 7, the CSR department focused on 13 Fishermen's Monument, San Antonio Beach, PauPau Beach, and Wing Beach.

Imperial Pacific CSR manager Alex Palacios leads the team in cleaning up San Antonio Beach.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The CSR team of Imperial Pacific International have heir picture taken after cleaning up PauPau Beach.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Cleaning up Wing Beach at the north side's protected green sea turtle grounds.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Corporate Social Responsibility department of Imperial Pacific International is divided into two groups to cover four beach cleanups in two days.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

For more than a year now since its establishment, the Corporate Social Responsibility department of Imperial Pacific International has been at the forefront in helping beautify the island as part of several activities and initiatives.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Once Upon a Christmas' at Hyatt

This December, Hyatt Regency Saipan will host two community youth groups: the Saipan Music and Dance and the choir and dance groups of Hopwood Junior High School.

On Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays, the youth groups will dance and sing traditional Christmas carols in the hotel lobby from 5:30pm to 7pm.

Santa Claus will be in the hotel lobby on Christmas Eve from 5:30pm to 7pm as well as Christmas Day between the hours of 10am and 2pm.

With a variety of dining experiences, Hyatt presents "Once Upon a Christmas," a festive holiday dining experience to celebrate the most joyous time of the year. All community members are invited to share in the sentiment of a fairy tale Christmas—an experience like no other.

For more information, visit www.hyatt.com. ***(PR)***

MARIANAS
Celebrating 40 Years in Tourism
MARIANAS
THE MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY
Christmas IN THE Marianas
PASEO DE MARIANAS
December 3, 10, 17, 2016; 5:00pm to 10:00pm
December 23 and 30, 2016; 5:00pm to 9:00pm
December 10, 2016
Entertainment and Christmas Caroling
5:00 p.m. Christmas music
6:00 p.m. - 7:15 p.m. High School Christmas Skits
6:00 p.m. Saipan Southern High School
6:15 p.m. Marianas High School
6:30 p.m. Agape Christian School
6:45 p.m. Grace Christian Academy
7:00 p.m. Kagman High School
7:15 p.m. - 8:15 p.m. Middle School Christmas Caroling
7:15 p.m. Grace Christian Academy
7:30 p.m. Agape Christian School
7:45 p.m. Green Meadow School
8:00 p.m. Northern Marianas International School
8:15 p.m. Christmas music
10:00 p.m. Closing
December 17, 2016
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and Christmas costume fashion show
December 23, 2016
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Carols, skits at Christmas in the Marianas on Dec. 10

The Christmas spirit returns to Paseo de Marianas in downtown Garapan tomorrow, Dec. 10, for another celebratory evening of caroling and holiday skits during Christmas in the Marianas.

Festivities will kick off at 5pm with piped Christmas music at the pedestrian mall, followed by Christmas skits by high school students beginning at 6pm and Christmas caroling by middle school students beginning at 7:15pm. The evening will continue until 10pm.

The monthlong Christmas in the Marianas, organized by the Marianas Visitors Authority, PDM Promoters, Inc., Team PDI, and other travel partners, offers weekly holiday entertainment for visitors and residents, alike. This year, the event is being held on the first three Saturdays of the month and then the last two Fridays.

Students of Oleai Elementary share Christmas caroling during the Marianas Visitors Authority's Christmas in the Marianas at Paseo de Marianas on Dec. 3, 2016.

MVA

"Opening night for Christmas in the Marianas on Dec. 3 was a great first night, including Christmas caroling and the lighting of the Christmas trees decorated by school children," said MVA Community Projects specialist Ryan Calvo, lead organizer of the event. "The students have especially outdone themselves this year with the creativity put into their tree decorating using natural and recycled materials."

Last Saturday, a giant Christmas tree installed by the MVA at Paseo de Marianas was also lit. The event also included food and beverage sales by various vendors.

Saturday's entertainment lineup includes Christmas skits by Saipan Southern High (6pm), Marianas High (6:15pm), Agape Christian School (6:30pm), Grace Christian Academy (6:45pm) and Kagman High (7pm.). Festivities will continue with Christmas caroling by Grace Christian Academy (7:15pm), Agape Christian School (7:30pm), Green Meadows School (7:45pm), and Northern Marianas International School (8pm).

On Dec. 17, the Parade of Floats will be held around sunset from the Carolinian Affairs Office in Garapan along Beach Road to American Memorial Park, followed by a costume show. Awards for all competitions will also be made. Dec. 23 and 30 will have live performances at Paseo de Marianas. The Japanese Mochitsuki Festival will be held on Dec. 30, marking the pounding of rice to make "mochi," a traditional event in preparation for the new year. The event will run from 6pm to 10pm each night.

Participating schools in all Christmas in the Marianas events are Oleai Elementary, Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary, Kagman Elementary, San Vicente Elementary, Saipan Southern High, Marianas High, Kagman High, Tanapag Middle School, Dandan Middle School, Agape Christian School, Green Meadow School, Grace Christian Academy, Northern Marianas International School, and Mt. Carmel School.

For more information on the event, contact MVA Community Projects specialist Ryan Calvo at rcalvo@mymarianas.com or 664.3200/1 or visit www.mymarianas.com. ***(MVA)***

Students of San Vicente Elementary share Christmas caroling during the Marianas Visitors Authority's Christmas in the Marianas at Paseo de Marianas on Dec. 3, 2016.

MVA

Students of Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary share Christmas caroling during the Marianas Visitors Authority's Christmas in the Marianas at Paseo de Marianas on Dec. 3, 2016.

MVA

Christmas trees decorated by school children adorn Paseo de Marianas throughout the holiday season as part of the Marianas Visitors Authority's Christmas in the Marianas. The event will be held on Dec. 10, 17, 23, and 30, 2016.

MVA

Paseo de Marianas pedestrian mall in downtown Garapan is the venue for the Marianas Visitors Authority's Christmas in the Marianas celebration on Dec. 10, 17, 23, and 30, 2016, from 6pm to 10pm. The event features Christmas caroling, skits, Christmas trees, lights, and more.

MVA

Ikuei Nishi students visit MCS for 2nd year in a row

Mount Carmel School and Ikuei Nishi Junior and Senior High School students gather for a group photo.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Ikuei Nishi Junior and Senior High School students present traditional Japanese kimono dress.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

For the second year in a row, students from the all-girls school Ikuei Nishi Junior and Senior High School in Nara, Japan, visited Mount Carmel School.

Building on the successful visit last year in October, the number of students jumped from 100 to over 150 this year.

The day kicked off with a welcoming ceremony, in which representatives from each school gave opening remarks and students from each respective school performed for each other. After the ceremony, Ikuei Nishi students spent the day conducting mini-cultural presentations for all grade levels, as well as interacting with MCS students in games and activities.

According to Ikuei Nishi vice principal Akiko Yukawa, they decided to come back to Mount Carmel based on a very successful visit last year. A

"We remembered your warm hospitality, and we wanted to come back to continue our wonderful relationship," Yukawa said.

Ikuei Nishi teacher Rika Shimodama echoed Yukawa. "We really appreciate the hospitality of Mount Carmel School."

The visit proved to be another success, according to MCS student leaders. MCS Student Council president Zeno Deleon Guerrero said, "This year's visit was awesome, especially since they took the time to include and present to our elementary students. …This also honored one of our school's Expected School-wide Learning Results, to cultivate respect and appreciation for cultural diversity."

Ikuei Nishi Junior and Senior High School students are all smiles before the welcoming ceremony.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Ikuei Nishi Junior and Senior High School students demonstrate karate.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Ikuei Nishi Junior and Senior High School students prepare for their performances before the Mount Carmel School student body.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

For MCS Student Council vice president Jacqueline Doctor, she appreciated the improvements in this year's visit. "There were more activities this year, helping us interact more." ***(MCS)***

Ikuei Nishi Junior and Senior High School students perform a "ninja" dance.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Mount Carmel School president, Galvin Deleon Guerrero, left, meets with Ikuei Nishi Junior and Senior High School vice principal Akiko Yukawa, middle, and K. Inada, right.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Business

INNOVATION OR MONOPOLY?

Panel looks at ATT-Time Warner deal

AP

AT&T Chairman and CEO Randall Stephenson, right, stands with Time Warner Chairman and CEO Jeffrey Bewkes, on Capitol Hill in Washington, Wednesday, Dec. 7, 2016, prior to testifying before a Senate Judiciary subcommittee hearing on the proposed merger between AT&T and Time Warner.

WASHINGTON (AP)—Senators questioning the logic of a proposed merger between AT&T and Time Warner turned their focus to the nickels and dimes of the issue, at least as to how the $85.4 billion megadeal would affect Americans. OK, you say this huge merger will enhance, not quash, competition and benefit consumers. Will it actually reduce prices that consumers pay?

AT&T CEO Randall Stephenson assured the members of a Senate antitrust panel Wednesday that yes, "We will bring the consumers better price options than what they have today." He said, though, that it wasn't possible at this point to separate how much of the anticipated savings would go to customers of the company's DirectTV, broadband and mobile phone services.

Stephenson and Time Warner CEO Jeffrey Bewkes made the case that the combined company would push technology forward and lead to more choices for customers. "Together, AT&T and Time Warner will disrupt the entrenched pay-TV models, giving customers more options, creating more competition for cable TV providers and accelerating deployment of 5G wireless broadband," Stephenson testified.

In hours of questioning before the Senate Judiciary antitrust subcommittee, the skepticism of some senators seemed to deepen over what would be one of the largest media mergers ever.

"I have yet to be convinced" that the benefits of the merger outweigh the potential negative effects on competition, Sen. Richard Blumenthal, D-Conn., told Stephenson and Time Warner CEO Jeffrey Bewkes.

Panel chairman Sen. Michael Lee, R-Utah said, "The potential anticompetitive favoritism that the combined firm could bestow on its own products is not limited to price or access, but extends to the quality of the offerings as well."

The deal must win approval from federal regulators. It would bind the second-largest U.S. telecommunications company with a media and entertainment conglomerate that owns CNN, HBO, the "Harry Potter" franchise and pro basketball. It's a big-time bet on a partnership between a company that distributes information and entertainment to consumers, and one that produces it.

Critics of the merger range from industry analysts and public-interest groups to President-elect Donald Trump, who promised on the campaign trail that he'd kill the deal "because it's too much concentration of power in the hands of too few."

Gene Kimmelman, a former Justice Department official who leads the consumer-advocate group Public Knowledge, crystallized those concerns.

"There are too few players in these markets already. They are heavily concentrated," he told the panel. The concentration of market power could "harm the democratic process" as well as consumers' pocketbooks, Kimmelman warned.

Mark Cuban, the billionaire sports and media mogul who owns the NBA's Dallas Mavericks, played evangelist for the deal in a fast-moving world of media and entertainment content. Consider Facebook's mergers with WhatsApp, Snapchat and others, he testified: Those deals are driving innovation. Old media like Time Warner can't compete with the likes of Facebook if they can't merge.

AP source: Trump to tap Oklahoma AG Pruitt to head EPA

WASHINGTON (AP)—President-elect Donald Trump is expected to nominate Oklahoma Attorney General Scott Pruitt to lead the Environmental Protection Agency, a source close to Pruitt said Wednesday.

Pruitt, a 48-year-old Republican, has been a reliable booster of the fossil fuel industry and an outspoken critic of what he derides as the EPA's "activist agenda."

The person close to Pruitt who provided the information was unauthorized to speak publicly about Trump's pick and did so on condition of anonymity.

Environmental groups quickly denounced Trump's choice on Wednesday as a puppet of polluters, with the Sierra Club likening Pruitt's selection as EPA administrator to "putting an arsonist in charge of fighting fires."

Representatives of the nation's mining and oil interests, however, cheered Pruitt's selection.

"Scott Pruitt is a businessman and public servant and understands the impact regulation and legislation have in the business world," said Jeffrey McDougall, an oilman who serves as chairman of the Oklahoma Independent Petroleum Association. "His appointment will put rational and reasonable regulation at the forefront."

Though his academic degrees are in political science and law, Pruitt has been a vocal public denier of the science showing that the Earth is warming and that man-made carbon emissions are to blame.

In an opinion article published earlier this year by National Review, Pruitt suggested that the debate over global warming "is far from settled" and claimed "scientists continue to disagree about the degree and extent of global warming and its connection to the actions of mankind."

According to NASA, 97 percent of the world's climate scientists agree that the planet is getting hotter and that burning fossil fuels is the primary cause. Ten of the warmest years in history have occurred in the past 12, with 2016 on pace to be the hottest recorded. Studies show the Greenland and Antarctic ice sheets have decreased in mass, while the world's oceans have risen on average nearly 7 inches in the last century.

Congress cracks down on bots that snap up concert tickets

WASHINGTON (AP)—Congress sent legislation to President Barack Obama that could make it easier to get tickets to popular shows, sports events and concerts.

Legislation passed by the House on Wednesday would crack down on computer software used by ticket brokers to snap up tickets. The so-called "bots" rapidly purchase as many tickets as possible for resale at significant markups, and are one of the reasons why tickets to a Bruce Springsteen concert or "Hamilton" performance can sell out in just a few minutes.

The bill would make using the software an "unfair and deceptive practice" under the Federal Trade Commission Act and allow the FTC to pursue those cases. The Senate passed the bill last month.

"Hamilton" producer Jeffrey Seller testified at a Senate hearing in September. He said the bots invade the Ticketmaster system the moment tickets go on sale and electronically purchase almost all the available inventory—one of the reasons tickets to the hit musical about the life of founding father Alexander Hamilton have sold for $1,000 or more.

In a report earlier this year, investigators in New York Attorney General Eric Schneiderman's office cited a single broker who bought 1,012 tickets within one minute to a U2 concert at Madison Square Garden when they went on sale on Dec. 8, 2014, despite the vendor's claim of a four-ticket limit. By day's end, that broker and one other had 15,000 tickets to U2's North American shows.

The report said third-party brokers resell tickets on sites like StubHub and TicketsNow at average margins of 49 percent above face value and sometimes more than 10 times the price.

EU official hopeful for trade deal under Trump presidency

WASHINGTON (AP)—A senior European Union official on Wednesday expressed hope that the incoming Trump administration will continue talks on a comprehensive free trade agreement with Europe.

EU Ambassador to the U.S. David O'Sullivan told a conference in Washington that he hopes that negotiations on the Trans-Atlantic Trade and Investment Partnership will go on despite President-elect Donald Trump's negative comments on trade. Trump has spoken out against various trade deals during the presidential campaign.

The Obama administration has been negotiating the agreement, also known as TTIP, for three years. TTIP aims to remove barriers to trade between the world's two largest economies, to boost economic growth and employment and harmonize labor, safety and environmental standards.

"We stand ready to continue these negotiations and bring them to successful conclusion," O'Sullivan told a conference on EU-U.S. relations. "We still think the objective arguments... in favor of a good trans-Atlantic deal remain valid."

O'Sullivan added that if trade talks were to resume next year, a deal could be reached in a year or two.

At the same time O'Sullivan noted that Trump has yet to formulate his position on TTIP. During a heated presidential campaign, where trade was a central issue, Trump has said that international deals cost Americans theirs jobs.

"We simply do not know in the light of everything that has been said about trade where this new administration will stand. So we are being respectful of that," he added.

Proponents of the agreement argue that lowering tariffs and harmonizing rules would give a much-needed boost to businesses at a time of global economic uncertainty. But trade unions, nationalists and green groups in Europe have lobbied hard against the deal. In the U.S., labor unions have complained that the deal is aimed at lowering, not improving standards.

STOCK PORTFOLIO

LEADING INDICATORS

DOW	S&P	NASDAQ
19,549.62	2,241.35	5,393.76
+297.84	+29.12	+60.76
1.55%	1.32%	1.14%

EXCHANGE RATES

In U.S. dollar terms

Australian Dollar	1.3351	Hong Kong Dollar	7.7557	Russian Ruble	63.3258
British Pound	0.7907	Indian Rupee	67.4025	Singapore Dollar	1.4174
Canadian Dollar	1.3225	Japanese Yen	113.548	South Korean Won	1157.78
Chinese Yuan	6.8801	Malaysian Ringgit	4.428	Swiss Franc	1.0068
Euro	0.9288	New Zealand Dollar	1.3889	Taiwan Dollar	31.727
		Philippine Peso	49.67	Thailand Baht	35.62

Nation

Trump chooses hardliners but talks softer on immigration

NEW YORK (AP)—Donald Trump embraced new Cabinet officers Wednesday whose backgrounds suggest he's primed to put tough actions behind his campaign rhetoric on immigration and the environment, even as he seemed to soften his yearlong stance on immigrants brought to the U.S. illegally as children.

■■■

A federal judge who ordered Michigan to begin its recount effectively ended it on Wednesday, tying his decision to a state court ruling that found Green Party candidate Jill Stein had no legal standing to request another look at ballots. The ruling seals Republican Donald Trump's narrow victory over Democrat Hillary Clinton for Michigan's 16 electoral votes.

■■■

It's clearer by the day, underscored by Trump's at-times contradictory words, that his actual policies as president won't be settled until after he takes his seat in the Oval Office.

Retired Marine Gen. John Kelly has been selected to head the Department of Homeland Security, and Oklahoma Attorney General Scott Pruitt, a climate-change denier whose policies have helped fossil fuel companies, is to be announced as head of the Environmental Protection Agency.

Separately, Trump named the former chief executive of World Wrestling Entertainment, Linda McMahon, to head the Small Business Administration - and may have breathed new life into the candidacy of a secretary of state contender.

Trump said he planned to name his choice for the key Cabinet post next week and insisted that former rival Mitt Romney still had a chance. Trump, who has met twice with the 2012 GOP presidential nominee, denied he was stringing Romney along to make him pay for earlier remarks that Trump was unfit to be president.

"No, it's not about revenge. It's about what's good for the country, and I'm able to put this stuff behind us—and I hit him very hard also," Trump said in a telephone interview on NBC.

Three sources close to the selection process said late Wednesday that Romney's stock is on the rise again within Trump's circle after a period in which the celebrity businessman had cooled on the candidacy of the former Massachusetts governor. But Trump has changed his mind repeatedly throughout the process and has expanded the pool of contenders beyond the previously identified final four of Romney, former New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani, Senate Foreign Relations Chairman Bob Corker and former CIA Director David Petraeus.

Trump's long presidential campaign was in large part defined by searing rhetoric and his steadfast promises to build an impenetrable wall on the border with Mexico and crack down on immigrants living in the U.S. illegally. But he struck a softer tone in an interview published Wednesday after he was named Time Magazine's "Person of the Year."

"We're going to work something out that's going to make people happy and proud," Trump said. "They got brought here at a very young age; they've worked here, they've gone to school here. Some were good students. Some have wonderful jobs. And they're in never-never land because they don't know what's going to happen."

He offered no details about a policy that would make that clear.

During the campaign, Trump's tough comments—including a vow to overturn President Barack Obama's executive orders on immigration—have led to fears among immigrant advocates that he will end Obama's Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program. Hundreds of thousands of young immigrants have gained work permits and temporary protection from deportation under the 2012 program, which aides to Trump have said would be revisited.

Others continue to press the immigrants' case. Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel presented Trump a letter Wednesday from 14 big city mayors urging him to keep the program intact.

"They were working hard toward the American dream," Emanuel told reporters in lobby of Trump's skyscraper. "It's no fault of their own their parents came here. They are something we should hold up and embrace."

Though some immigrant advocates hope Trump's words were an olive branch, others were skeptical.

The Cabinet departments

A president's Cabinet contains the vice president and the heads of each Cabinet-level department. The Cabinet, being established in the Constitution, has existed as long as the presidency, although many Cabinet-level departments were established later. Here is a look at each department, in the order they were established (Although the Department of Justice wasn't established until 1870, the Cabinet-level position of attorney general has existed since 1789).

State Established 1789
Employees* 10,068
Budget $26.5 billion
Secretary: John Kerry
The Department of State implements the president's foreign policy goals, including foreign assistance, international crime policy, immigration and services to U.S. citizens abroad.

Treasury Established 1789
Employees 84,050
Budget $485.6 billion
Secretary: Jack Lew
The Treasury handles the nation's money. It handles production of currency, expenses and revenue and the borrowing of money to fund the government.
Major agencies
Internal Revenue Service, U.S. Mint, Inspector General

Defense Established 1789
Employees 89,521
Budget $562.5 billion
Secretary: Ashton Carter
The Department of Defense includes the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines and operates out of the Pentagon.
Major agencies
Armed forces branches, Defense Intelligence Agency, Joint Chiefs of Staff, National Security Agency

Justice Established 1870
Employees 111,010
Budget $26.9 billion
Attorney general: Loretta Lynch
The Justice Department enforces federal law.
Major agencies
Drug Enforcement Administration, Federal Bureau of Investigation, U.S. Marshals, Federal Bureau of Prisons

Interior Established 1849
Employees 48,798
Budget $12.3 billion
Secretary: Sally Jewell
The Department of the Interior protects the nation's natural resources, managing 500 million acres, and handles relations with Native Americans.
Major agencies
National Parks Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs, U.S. Geological Survey

Agriculture Established 1862
Employees 73,663
Budget $139.1 billion
Secretary: Tom Vilsack
The USDA handles policy on farming and food. It also handles aid programs to developing countries involving surplus food.
Major agencies
Forest Service, Food and Nutrition Service, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

Commerce Established 1903
Employees 35,249
Budget $9.0 billion
Secretary: Penny Pritzker
The Department of Commerce promotes and supports U.S. business.
Major agencies
U.S. Census Bureau, International Trade Administration, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Bureau of Economic Analysis

Labor Established 1913
Employees 15,086
Budget $45.2 billion
Secretary: Tom Perez
The Department of Labor supports the American workforce.
Major agencies
Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Safety and Health Administration

Health and Human Services Established 1953
Employees 63,324
Budget $1.0 trillion
Secretary: Sylvia Mathews Burwell
HHS covers health care policy, including Medicare and Medicaid. It also handles scientific research.
Major agencies
National Institutes of Health, Food and Drug Administration, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Housing and Urban Development Established 1965
Employees 8,059
Budget $35.5 billion
Secretary: Julián Castro
HUD handles housing policy, including fair housing law enforcement and housing for low-income Americans.
Major agencies
Federal Housing Administration, Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity

Transportation Established 1966
Employees 53,822
Budget $75.4 billion
Secretary: Anthony Foxx
The Department of Transportation handles transportation policy including automobile travel, railroads, aviation and maritime transportation.
Major agencies
Federal Highway Administration, Federal Aviation Administration, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

Energy Established 1977
Employees 14,443
Budget $25.4 billion
Secretary: Ernest Moniz
The Department of Energy handles energy policy and security.
Major agencies
Energy Information Administration, National Nuclear Security Administration

Education Established 1979
Employees 3,862
Budget $90.0 billion
Secretary: John King
The Department of Education handles education at all levels, including financial aid.

Veterans Affairs Established 1988
Employees 324,639
Budget $159.2 billion
Secretary: Robert McDonald
The Department of Veterans Affairs administers benefits to veterans and the surviving families of veterans, including pensions, education benefits, health care, home loans and burial benefits.

Homeland Security Established 2002
Employees 160,605
Budget $42.6 billion
Secretary: Jeh Johnson
The DHS is in charge of protecting the country by coordinating the operations of 22 previously seperate agencies.
Major agencies
U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, U.S. Secret Service, Transportation Security Administration, Federal Emergency Management Agency

Source: U.S. Office of Personnel Management, Office of Management and Budget, White House, Cabinet departments
*State Department employee numbers are from 2014. All other employee and budget numbers are from 2015
Graphic: Tribune News Service

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PUBLIC AUCTION NOTICE
SURPLUS VEHICLES & EQUIPMENT

Notice is hereby given that the Commonwealth Ports Authority (Authority) will sell at Public Auction, **December 23, 2016 at 1:00 PM** surplus vehicles and equipment at the Tinian Harbor, Tinian, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Each vehicle or equipment will have a reasonable minimum bid cost. Bidders are requested to inspect the vehicles and equipment by contacting the Tinian Airport Manager at telephone number 433-9301, Monday to Friday, 08:00 am to 5:00 pm.

The vehicles and equipment will be sold "As Is" and "Where Is" and without Warranty. The successful bidder is required to pay 50% down payment on acceptance of bid. Balance shall be payable at the Tinian Airport Manager's Office, Tinian International Airport within 5 calendar days from auction closing date. Bidder shall only remove the vehicles or equipment from the Authority premises upon full payment of bid price. Failure to pay will result in the forfeiture of the down payment and equipment. Payment shall be in cash, cashier's check, or money order payable to CPA.

Inquiries may be directed to the Procurement Officer, Mr. Alex C. Tudela at telephone number 237-6563.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Christopher S. Tenorio
Acting Executive Director

Dated this 7th day of December, 2016

DIVISION OF COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT
Caller Box 10007, Gualo Rai Center, Saipan MP 96950
TEL. NO. 664-8300 FAX NO. 664-8315

NOTICE OF APPLICATION
As of December 9, 2016

THE FOLLOWING IS A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF COASTAL PERMIT APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY THE DCRM OFFICE:

APPLICANT	DATE APPLICATION RECEIVED	APPLICATION PROJECT DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	TYPE	STATUS
1. Docomo Pacific	09/26/2016 S/T/RMS-2016-X-083	Fiber Optic Cable Installation	Saipan, Tinian, & Rota	Major Siting	Approved, 12/2/2016
2. Imperial Pacific International	11/14/2016 SS-2017-X-016	Habitat Restoration & Conservation Plan	Garapan, Saipan	Shoreline	Under Review-Extended*
3. Department of Land & Natural Resource	11/21/2016 SS-2017-X-018	Boat facility parking	Garapan, Saipan	Shoreline	Approved, 12/6/2016
4. Townhouse Inc.	11/22/2016 SSCH-2017-X-019	Demolish of existing 2 story building	Chalan Kanoa, Saipan	Shoreline	Approved, 12/7/2017
5. Docomo Pacific	11/22/2016 SSPIW-2015-X-075 Amendment 2017-1	Fiber Optic Cable Installation	Fina Sisu-Chalan Kanoa	Multiple APCs	Approved, 12/7/2017
6. Windsurfing Saipan Inc.	12/2/2016 SLRm-2012-X-059	Marine Sports Activities	Garapan, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Renewal, Approved 12/5/2016

§15-10-210 of the CRM Rules and Regulation requires all permit applications to be published in a newspaper for general circulation within the CNMI within 15 days of receipt of application. The list reflects recently received permit applications and those with a recent change in status. New applications are marked with an asterisk (*).

The Public is invited to submit written comments regarding any of the above projects for which a permit decision has not been issued. All permit comments should identify the project by application number. Your comments should be mailed or hand-delivered to the DCRM Office. All persons who desire a public hearing regarding any project may do so by submitting a written request for a public hearing to the DCRM Office within fourteen (14) days for minor permits (APC's) and proposed amended major sitings. Public Hearings are required for all new major siting projects. All public hearing notices are published in a local newspaper of general circulation. Residents of Rota and Tinian may submit comments and hearing requests to their local DCRM Coordinator. Persons wishing to retain the right to appeal a DCRM Permit decision must file a notice of appeal with the DCRM office within thirty (30) days of the issuance of the DCRM permit decision as provided in Part 200 § 15-10-235 of the DCRM Regulations.

Asia

Rescuers comb Indonesia earthquake rubble for second day

MEUREUDU, Indonesia (AP)—Rescue workers, soldiers and police combed through the rubble of a devastated town in Indonesia's Aceh province Thursday, resuming a search for earthquake survivors that was halted at night by rain and blackouts.

More than 100 people died in the shallow and powerful quake that struck northeast Sumatra before dawn on Wednesday. Hundreds were injured and dozens of buildings were destroyed. The worst damage appears to be in Pidie Jaya district near the epicenter, but assessments of the region are still underway.

Scores of rescue personnel were crawling over a market in Meureudu, the hard-hit town, where many shop houses collapsed. One shop owner, Hajj Yusri Abdullah, didn't hold out much hope of finding survivors. He said nearly two dozen bodies were pulled from the market debris the day before. They included a group of eight made up of a newlywed couple and family members holding an ornate celebration known as Antar Dara Baro.

Some people spent the night outdoors while thousands of others took refuge in mosques and temporary shelters.

AP

Rescuers use excavators to search for victims under the rubble of collapsed buildings after an earthquake in Pidie Jaya, Aceh province, Indonesia, Wednesday, Dec. 7, 2016.

Source: AP
Graphic: Tribune News Service

Many were homeless after the magnitude 6.5 quake destroyed or damaged their homes and others were too scared to return home. Killer quakes occur regularly in the region, where many live with the terrifying memory of a giant Dec. 26, 2004, earthquake that struck off Sumatra. The magnitude 9.1 quake triggered a devastating tsunami that killed more than 100,000 Acehnese.

A spokesman for Indonesia's National Disaster Mitigation Agency said the death toll had risen to 102, spread across three districts in northern Aceh but concentrated in Pidie Jaya. Aceh's disaster mitigation agency said more than 8,000 displaced people were at several shelters in the district. The Indonesian government has declared a two-week emergency period in Aceh and some aid was already reaching hard-hit areas.

Humanitarian organization CARE said it would was leading a joint assessment mission of four international aid organizations.

"It will take several more days to get a full picture of the impact," CARE's Indonesia director Helen Vanwel said in a statement. "We know from experience that after an earthquake of such a scale, people urgently need water, shelter, food and medicine," she said.

The Indonesian Red Cross deployed emergency response teams and announced bank accounts for donations.

Its head of disaster management, Arifin Hadi, said five water trucks had been sent into the quake area. Aid, including hygiene kits, tarpaulins, jerry cans, blankets and family assistance kits, is being distributed, with more to be sent from Jakarta, he said. The International Organization for Migration sent an assessment team to Aceh.

The U.S. Geological Survey said the earthquake was centered about 19 kilometers (12 miles) southeast of Sigli, a town near the northern tip of Sumatra, at a depth of 17 kilometers (11 miles). The agency had initially placed the epicenter undersea. It did not generate a tsunami.

Siti Rukiah, 51, a mother of four, was among the many people who took refuge for the night in local mosques. She and about 100 other people from Pante Raja, a seaside village in Pidie Jaya district, fled to Nur Abdullah mosque located on higher ground in a nearby hamlet.

She said the quake felt so powerful she had to grab onto a table to keep from falling down. She was sure a tsunami was coming.

"I'm really scared about a tsunami," said Rukiah, whose brother and neighbors died in the 2004 disaster. She said she didn't want to return home "not only because my house is damaged, but I am still afraid an aftershock could cause a tsunami."

Aceh's disaster mitigation agency said more than 600 people were injured. The national disaster agency said about 245 buildings were seriously damaged or destroyed in Pidie Jaya and neighboring Bireuen district, including 14 mosques. The rest were mainly dwellings and shop houses. Roads also cracked and power poles toppled over.

Pakistani plane crashes after takeoff with 48 people aboard

ABBOTTABAD, Pakistan (AP)—A plane belonging to Pakistan's national carrier crashed and burst into flames on Wednesday with 48 people on board, killing all of them, police and an airline spokesman said.

According to senior police officer Khurram Rasheed, the plane crashed in a village in the district of Abbottabad, 75 kilometers (45 miles) northwest of the capital, Islamabad. The small twin-propeller aircraft was travelling from the city of Chitral to Islamabad when it crashed shortly after takeoff.

According to Daniyal Gilani, the spokesman for Pakistan International Airlines, the plane had lost touch with the control tower prior to the crash. He said the plane was carrying 42 passengers, five crew members and a ground engineer.

"There is no survivor," a senior government official at the Interior Ministry said.

"All those on board the plane were killed," said the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity as he was not authorized to release details about the crash to the media.

Azam Sehgal, PIA's chairman, said the pilot of plane told the control tower 4:09 p.m. that an engine had developed a technical fault and moments later he made a "mayday call," shortly before the plane disappeared.

Sehgal said the plane was fit to fly but that it was unclear what caused the crash.

Pervez George, the spokesman for the Civil Aviation Authority, told The Associated Press that a team of experts would determine the cause after retrieving the plane's black box recorder.

TV footage showed debris from the plane and a massive fire at the site of the crash. The footage showed local villagers collecting the remains of the passengers and covering the bodies with cloths.

In a statement, the military said that 40 bodies had been retrieved.

Several bodies were later transported to the Ayub Medical Complex, where mourning relatives began arriving to receive the remains.

Among such mourners was tearful Ghulam Rasool Khan, 24, who said his brother Umair Khan was on board the plane.

Duterte defends police accused of killing drug-linked mayor

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte staunchly defended on Wednesday more than two dozen policemen who were accused by the government's main investigation agency of killing a jailed mayor linked to illegal drugs.

Duterte said he still believes the accounts of the policemen, who said Mayor Rolando Espinosa Sr. and another inmate, Raul Yap, died in their cells when they shot it out with police during a Nov. 5 raid in a jail in central Leyte province. The president said he was willing to go to jail for his policemen.

After weeks of investigation, the National Bureau of Investigation said Tuesday it determined that the two inmates died in a police "rubout" and not a shootout. The NBI, the equivalent of America's FBI, said the policemen likely placed pistols and illegal drugs in the cells of the two slain inmates to justify the police raid.

"What the police stated is the truth for me," Duterte said in a speech Wednesday. He added that he would not allow the policemen to go to jail.

"They say it's murder, fine. That is your finding but since the police are also doing their duty, following my order here, a direct order, I will have to defend him," Duterte said. He added, however, that he would not intervene in the NBI's work.

The NBI findings cast a black mark on Duterte's deadly anti-drug crackdown, which has alarmed Western governments and human rights groups. There have been suspicions that some of the more than 4,000 slain drug suspects may have been killed deliberately by law enforcers and did not die in gunbattles as claimed by police.

In three separate speeches Wednesday, the brash-talking president defended the crackdown and repeated his warning that drug traffickers face death if they continue to defy law enforcers and fight back.

He said at least 58 policemen and 54 military personnel have died in the crackdown and more than 230 others have been wounded. "If it's extrajudicial killings, why would I allow my men to die?" he said.

NBI spokesman Ferdinand Lavin said Tuesday the bureau filed murder complaints against the policemen at the Department of Justice last Friday. Prosecutors will rule whether there is enough evidence to indict the policemen.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Bill English poised to become prime minister of New Zealand

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP)—Bill English has moved closer to becoming New Zealand's next leader following the shock resignation this week of Prime Minister John Key. English on Thursday appeared to have secured the majority support he needed from his 58 National Party colleagues in the parliament. One of his two challengers for the role conceded, saying English had the majority. The other challenger said he'd yet to count the numbers and wasn't ready to concede. English has been Key's trusted deputy for the past eight years and has been praised for his handling of the economy in his role as finance minister. Critics say the 54-year-old lacks the charisma needed for the top job. The National Party caucus is scheduled to meet on Monday and officially announce the winner.

Duterte says OK to bomb fleeing militants and their hostages

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte said Wednesday he told his Indonesian and Malaysian counterparts that their forces can bomb fleeing Filipino militants and their kidnap victims at sea because the hostages "are not supposed to be there." Duterte said in a speech that he told Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Razak and Indonesian President Joko "Jokowi" Widodo that their forces could enter Philippine waters while pursuing Muslim militants who are fleeing with hostages. Duterte said he told the leaders that if the militants were about to escape, "bomb them. If they cannot be captured you bomb them. How about the hostages? Eh, bomb them also. They're not supposed to be there, there is a warning." The brash-talking Duterte cited a U.S. travel advisory warning Americans not to travel in the treacherous waters bordering the three countries.

World

Syrian government advances despite rebel cease-fire offer

BEIRUT (AP)—Syria's government ignored a rebel cease-fire proposal for Aleppo on Wednesday as its forces captured new neighborhoods around the city center and squeezed some 200,000 tired and frightened civilians into a shattered and rapidly shrinking opposition enclave.

Facing a punishing and brutal defeat, rebel factions proposed a five-day cease-fire for the eastern parts of the city to evacuate the wounded and civilians wishing to flee.

"The artillery shelling is non-stop," a resident told The Associated Press by messaging service. He asked to conceal his name out of fear for his safety.

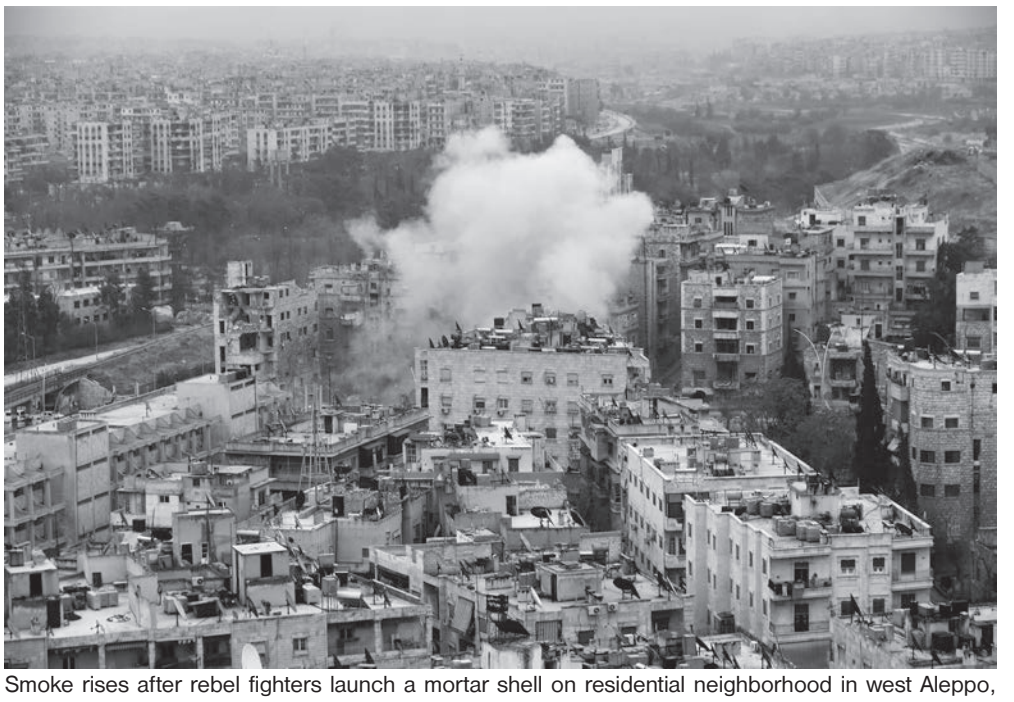
"The humanitarian situation is really tough. There are corpses on the streets. ... There is very little food. Bread is distributed every two or three days, six pieces per family. That's small, not enough for breakfast," he said.

Government officials had not directly addressed the rebel proposal by the evening.

"The decision to liberate all of Syria has been taken, and that includes Aleppo," Syrian President Bashar Assad told the state newspaper al-Watan.

Brig. Gen. Zeid al-Saleh told state TV that rebels must leave Aleppo or face death.

The Syrian government and its ally Russia have rejected previous cease-fires for the war-torn city, keeping up the military offensive that has forced rebel retreats and displaced at least 30,000 civilians in the past 11 days, according to U.N. figures. U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry and Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov met Wednesday in Hamburg, Germany but did not release any statements.



Smoke rises after rebel fighters launch a mortar shell on residential neighborhood in west Aleppo, Syria, Monday, Dec. 5, 2016. AP

The rebels made no offer to pull out of Aleppo, though their proposal promised to negotiate the fate of the city when the humanitarian crisis eases. A rebel spokesman said al-Qaida-linked group Fatah al-Sham Front, which has a limited presence among the fighters, will abide by the proposal.

Government forces and regional militias fighting alongside them, meanwhile, captured new ground in Aleppo's old city and its Bab al-Nairab district, home to one of the city's main water stations, according to monitoring groups and state media.

The rebels continued their shelling of the western government-held districts of the city. Syria's state news agency reported that 12 people were killed by mortar and rocket fire landing in western Aleppo.

Syrian military media said the government had captured three-quarters of the opposition's former enclave Tuesday. The U.N. estimated 275,000 people were still residing there before the start of the ground offensive.

The government is supported by Lebanon's militant group Hezbollah, Iraqi and Iranian militias, and Iran's elite Revolutionary Guards. Hezbollah's Al-Manar TV broadcast from Aleppo's iconic citadel in the late afternoon.

Iraqi forces face fierce IS attacks after new Mosul push

MOSUL, Iraq (AP)—Significant Islamic State group counterattacks in southeastern Mosul inflicted heavy losses on Iraqi forces overnight after a new push deeper into the city this week, according to an Iraqi Army officer.

Despite the counterattacks, the fresh Iraqi push appears to have relieved pressure on Iraq's special forces who have been largely leading the fight inside the city on the eastern front. Wednesday afternoon, the special forces announced new gains. The troops retook another neighborhood bringing them closer to the Tigris River that divides Mosul's east from west, according to the commander of a joint operations center that oversees the Mosul campaign.

Lt. Gen. Abdul-Amir Yarellah, said in a statement that troops had "fully liberated" the al-Elam neighborhood and raised the Iraqi flag over its buildings. Yarellah added that IS militants "suffered losses" without elaborating.

Also Wednesday, the Islamic State group's Amaq news agency released a propaganda video showing captive British photojournalist John Cantlie in what appeared to be central Mosul. Cantlie is seen detailing the U.S.-led coalition's destruction of four of Mosul's five main bridges in a series of airstrikes last month that he describes as inflicting harm on the city's sizeable civilian population.

IS has long used Cantlie for propaganda purposes, featuring him in videos from Mosul as well as the Syrian cities of Aleppo and Kobani, likely speaking under duress. As Mosul's bridges were destroyed last month, this is the first confirmation that Cantlie is alive since he appeared in an IS video in July.

At a small field hospital just a few kilometers from Mosul's eastern front line, medics said that by midday Wednesday they had already treated about a dozen Iraqi soldiers injured with gunshot and shrapnel wounds. As progress into militant-held Mosul has ground on slowly, a field hospital that was once no more than a few cots in an open lot, has become more established. Military hospital cots sat in a driveway of a nearby abandoned building flanked by IV stands and oxygen tanks.

The medics spoke on condition of anonymity as they were not authorized to brief the media.

The Iraqi Army said Tuesday that they retook the al-Salam hospital and pushed the front line back more than two kilometers, but Iraqi forces have repeatedly quickly advanced into Mosul only to be pushed back by counterattacks launched at night.

"Daesh waited until night to attack the troops," Iraqi Army Sgt. Maj. Hakim Saranbii told The Associated Press. He added that the attacks "inflicted heavy losses," without giving specific casualty figures or further details. Iraqi Defense Ministry officials in Baghdad did not immediately comment.

Convoys of dozens of armored Iraqi special forces and army Humvees could be seen moving into the southeastern neighborhood Wednesday morning.

"What we see here is the enemy reacting to a new axis of advance," said coalition spokesman U.S. Army Col. John Dorrian, explaining that the new push is putting increased pressure on IS.

Ex-chief of IRA splinter group killed in Irish city of Cork

DUBLIN (AP)—Two gunmen ambushed and killed a former top figure in the Real IRA splinter group in the southwest city of Cork, the first slaying of its kind in four years in Ireland, police and witnesses said Wednesday.

The attackers approached Aidan "The Beast" O'Driscoll from behind in the street, shot him once in the back, then twice more as the 37-year-old lay on the pavement. O'Driscoll, the Real IRA's reputed former chief of staff, died two hours later while undergoing surgery at Cork's hospital.

No group claimed responsibility. Police said the list of suspects was long, because O'Driscoll made many enemies in both gangland and IRA circles. Two cars believed to have been used by the attackers were abandoned in different parts of Cork and set on fire in a bid to destroy forensic evidence, a trademark IRA practice.

O'Driscoll was a close associate of Alan Ryan, the top Real IRA figure in Dublin, who launched a deadly war against rival drug-dealing gangs in the Irish capital and was shot to death in retaliation in 2012.

O'Driscoll's slaying threatens to fuel renewed feuding among Irish Republican Army splinter groups and other gangs. While the dominant IRA faction, the Provisionals, renounced violence and officially disarmed in 2005, smaller rival groups have sought to fill the vacuum, particularly over control of criminal rackets in the Republic of Ireland.

The Real IRA in 2013 said its new leadership had demoted and expelled O'Driscoll for pilfering profits from the outlawed group's involvement in cigarette smuggling and other crime. At the time, Real IRA colleagues shot O'Driscoll in both legs in a so-called "punishment" attack designed to cripple temporarily, not kill.

O'Driscoll was suspected of orchestrating or committing several killings in Cork and Dublin in the past decade, but never charged. He was convicted of Real IRA membership in 2006 but freed on a legal technicality two years later.

He earned his "Beast" nickname as a teenage Gaelic footballer in Cork, reflecting his brawn and bruising style of play.

Renzi quits; search on for new leader to guide Italy to vote

ROME (AP)—Italian Premier Matteo Renzi resigned Wednesday evening, his self-inflicted penalty for staking his job on constitutional changes voters resoundingly rejected earlier in the week. He will stay in a caretaker's role at the request of Italy's president until a new government can be formed.

Renzi had first offered his resignation on Monday, shortly after voters rejected the constitutional reforms his center-left government had championed. President Sergio Mattarella, Italy's head of state, told him to stay in office until Parliament completed approval of the 2017 national budget.

A few hours after the budget was passed on Wednesday, Renzi returned to the Quirinal presidential palace. This time, Mattarella accepted the resignation of the man who in February 2014 became Italy's youngest premier at age 39.

A presidential palace official, Ugo Zampetti, told reporters that Mattarella would begin consultations Thursday with the heads of Parliament's two chambers, as well as with former President Giorgio Napolitano.

After hearing out minor parties on Friday, Mattarella on Saturday plans to take proposals from the major players, including the Democratic Party that Renzi leads and the populist 5-Star Movement, Parliament's No. 1 and No. 2 parties respectively. It could be clear whom Mattarella might tap to be the next premier once those meetings are done. One strong possibility is a government that would rule until Parliament hashes out a new election law in a bid to bring political stability to Italy.

The talks are aimed at sounding out party leaders to determine the configuration of a new government that would have enough support in Parliament to win both the required confirmation vote and to lead the country until elections are next held.

Elections are scheduled for spring 2018, but Renzi's humiliating defeat in the referendum will likely hasten that date considerably, possibly bringing a vote in spring 2017. Opposition parties, including the anti-euro 5-Star Movement, are pressing for the elections to be held soon.

"We want to go to the ballot box soon," said Roberto Fico, a 5-Star lawmaker. But Fico, as have both other opposition leaders and leaders from Renzi's Democrats, also cited the need for Parliament to approve a new election law before the national contests are called.

Ultimately, it will be up to Mattarella to decide whether Parliament should be sent packing early.

"The ball's in President Sergio Mattarella's court," Renato Brunetta, a parliament whip for former Premier Silvio Berlusconi's opposition Forza Italia party, said. But "as far as we go, never, never would a second mandate to Renzi" be acceptable.

Science & Technology

Keep phone charges low during international travel

FLORENCE, Italy (AP)—It's a sure-fire way to dampen the holiday cheers: Spend a week on a dream vacation abroad, then come back to find an additional several hundred dollars on your cellphone bill.

Although some U.S. phone plans cover international travel, especially to Canada and Mexico, many don't. Leaving your phone off isn't practical these days . But you don't have to pay a fortune if you follow these tips. You might find some of these steps annoying, but they're surely less painful than an unexpected data bill. Start planning well before you leave.

Départs
DELAY FLIGHT DESTINATION ROWS GATE REMARKS
SN 3205 VENICE VCE 4 - 5 A CANCELLED
SN 2367 RIGA 4 - 5 CANCELLED
SN 2063 EDINBURGH 4 - 5 B CANCELLED
SN 3599 MARSEILLE 4 - 5 A CANCELLED
SK 1592 COPENHAGEN 6 - A CANCELLED
SN 3727 MADRID 4 - 5 A
TWI 472 DALAMAN 8 - B
SN 3195 TURIN 4 - 5 A CANCELLED
SN 2825 BUDAPEST 4 - 5 A GATE OPEN
EK 184 DUBAI 10 - B
SN 2555 WARSAW 4 - 5 A CANCELLED
OS 360 VIENNA 4 - 5 A CANCELLED
LX 781 ZURICH 4 - 5 A CANCELLED
KL 1726 AMSTERDAM 7 - A CANCELLED
LH 1013 FRANKFURT 3 - A CANCELLED
SN 2283 OSLO 4 - 5 A
SN 3181 ROME FCO 4 - 5 A
TK 1944 ISTANBUL 3 - B CANCELLED
AZ 149 MILAN LIN 7 - A
HO 3508 TENERIFE 11 - A
17 45 VY 1333 ALICANTE 6 - A DELAYED
SN 2719 GENEVA 4 - 5 A
BA 395 LONDON LHR 9 - B CANCELLED
IB 3197 MADRID 9 - A CANCELLED
TIME DELAY FLIGHT
15 45
16 05
16 10
16 10 18 25
JAF 303
QR 194 16 15
RYANAIR FR 2983 16 15
HQ 3882 16 20 18 40
LH 5612 16 30
EY 5802 16 30
LX 4572 16 30
EZY 4110 16 35
A3 1429 16 35
UA 9939 16 35
EZY 8522 16 40
UA 9925 16 45
EI 635
SN 3591
AH 2065
SN 2721
SN 2095
EZY 4812
SN 2177
4U 2163
GENEVA
LONDON
NAPLES
MANCHES
STUTTG
In this Wednesday, May 27, 2015, file photo, a passenger makes a phone call as he walks by a flight information board at Brussels Airport in Zaventem, Belgium. AP

1 Get a plan abroad

This is the most economical choice, but also the least practical for many people. With the exception of Verizon , carriers typically block your phone from other carriers' plans until you've paid off the hardware, typically after two years. They might make a temporary exception if you're traveling, but it's on you to get that set up. You might have an old phone to use instead, or you can rent or buy a cheap one for your trip.

This route gives you a lot of data at competitive prices. Upon arrival in Bangkok, for instance, I got 2.5 gigabytes of data for just less than $13. Two more gigabytes would have cost just $3 more.

Just visit a kiosk at the airport when you arrive, or stop by a cellphone or convenience store in town. You'll be assigned a phone number for that country, though, so friends and family will need that to call or text. But Facebook, email accounts and messaging services such as Apple's Facetime should work just as they do in the U.S.

If you're visiting multiple countries, you'll need a separate local plan for each.

2 Step up your U.S. plan

Check with your carrier on an international package. For instance, Verizon offers 100 megabytes of data for $25. Ten minutes of streaming video can wipe that out. But it'll get you email and basic messaging, and it's much cheaper than the $205 Verizon would charge for 100 megabytes without an international plan. You keep your U.S. number.

You might find this adequate for emergencies, such as when you need directions back to the hotel. Use your hotel's Wi-Fi as much as possible; your Instagram pictures can wait, especially if your friends are asleep anyway. For a two-week trip to Italy, I had plenty of data left after taking additional data-saving measures. Verizon even refunded me nearly $16. But I got socked with another $25 because I wasn't careful on a separate trip to Barcelona, Spain.

This option is good for multi-country trips. You can still get a local plan for the country where you'll spend the most time.

3 Leave cellular data off most of the time

Turn off "Cellular Data" under the "Cellular" settings on iPhones, or "Mobile data" on Android (the location in the settings varies by device). In Italy, I turned cellular back on for the brief times I needed it. You can go further by enabling airplane mode, but that also blocks incoming calls and texts, as well as Wi-Fi and Bluetooth.

4 Limit data use

Even if you have cellular on just briefly, tons of data-hungry messages could still flood in while the gate is open. To prevent that, you can prevent apps from using cellular data at all.

On iPhones, go to "Cellular" in the settings, then turn off as many items as possible in the list of apps. Also turn off "Wi-Fi Assist." In Italy, I turned off all apps. When I needed to check or send Gmail, I just turned that app back on temporarily. Otherwise, the phone waited until I got back to the hotel's Wi-Fi. Notifications still came through, but they don't use much data.

On most version of Android, turn on "Restrict background data" to blocks apps from using cellular data while running in the background. To let certain apps override that, you need "Data saver" on the latest version of Android, Nougat, which isn't yet available on most phones.

While you're at it, disable automatic video play on Facebook's app. Tap the three horizontal bars. On iPhones, choose "Settings," then "Account Settings," then "Videos and Photos." For "Autoplay," choose Wi-Fi only or never. On Android, check under "App settings."

And be sure to disable automatic app updates over cellular. It might already be set to Wi-Fi only, but double check in the "iTunes & App Stores" settings on iPhones and the Play Store settings on Android.

5 Download before you go

Get and set up apps for museums and other places you're visiting before you leave home or the hotel. Using the apps will consume data, but not as much as starting from scratch.

Likewise, download map data for Google Maps ahead of time. You can get driving directions and basic information on businesses without a data connection. The offline mode isn't meant for walking directions, though what I got for driving was often close enough (The exception was Venice, where cars are banned). Also, there's no offline transit support, but I got transit directions by enabling cellular briefly and used offline mode to get to my stops. Otherwise, Google Maps alone would have eaten up my 100 megabytes with Verizon.

You can also download any video you've bought or rented through iTunes, Amazon or Google Play. Amazon's Prime members can also download up to 25 of the videos available for free streaming. Netflix recently updated its app to offer similar downloads for offline viewing. You'll want to do this before leaving home, even if you plan to use Wi-Fi, as streaming rights for many titles don't extend outside the U.S. A service called PlayOn Cloud also lets you download video from various services for 99 cents each (iPhones only).

6 Track your usage

Check the settings regularly to see how much data you're using and adjust accordingly. On iPhones, check "Current Period Roaming" in the "Cellular" settings. Hit "Reset Statistics" at the start of your trip. On Android, check "Data usage." Android also keeps track of which apps use how much data, so you can identify culprits more easily. These are estimates, though, and your phone company might measure differently.

TECH Q&A: If you don't know what it is, don't click on it

By STEVE ALEXANDER
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

Q Occasionally I get a pop-up message on my four-year-old PC that says "To check for new device software, connect your PC to the internet and press 'continue.'" There is no company logo on the message and I'm leery of it, so I've been pressing "cancel," which makes it close until another day. I have looked in Windows Task Manager, but I can't find the program there. I run McAfee security software without finding anything. Also, over the past several weeks, my PC has had bouts of agonizingly slow internet performance. It usually goes back to normal after I run Windows Disk Cleanup, run a security scan and reboot. What's wrong?

A You were right not to click "continue." The rule of thumb for computer users is: Never click on something unless you know what it is.

In this case, we discovered what caused the upgrade message by emailing back and forth a few times. The behavior of the odd message matched that of the "software upgrade assistant" program that Verizon Wireless provides for users of Samsung smartphones. You confirmed that your wife had a Verizon Samsung phone.

When you clicked on a taskbar command to show "hidden icons," the program producing the message was revealed to be "VZW Software Upgrade Assistant-Samsung." My guess is that the program was installed on your PC as part of the phone's setup. The "upgrade assistant" provides an alternative to downloading software updates directly to the phone; the updates can instead be downloaded to the PC and transferred to the phone via USB cable.

There are many possible causes of a slow computer, including malicious software, hard disk congestion or internet connection issues.

Download and run the free version of the Malwarebytes security program (see tinyurl.com/jsdacdk and click "free download.")

See my recommendations in last week's column for fixing hard drive congestion and determining the speed of your internet connection (see tinyurl.com/gpt525l).

If you have upgraded to Windows 10, check your PC manufacturer's website to see whether your four-year-old PC is on the list of models that can handle the upgrade. If your PC isn't on the list, you may need to reinstall the previous version of Windows.

Q We have been using Sony wireless headphones with our living room TV for several years, and recently purchased a second set for the bedroom TV. But, when both are in use, they interfere with each other—the bedroom headphones pick up the living room TV signal and vice versa. I assume this is caused by the short distance between the two rooms. What can we do?

A Your headphones receive a radio signal from a transmitter that is connected to the TV. If you can move the transmitter and headphones closer to each other, you might strengthen the signal enough to avoid interference. You may also switch one of the transmitter-headphone pairs to a different radio frequency, or channel. Move to a new channel by using the selector switch on the transmitter, then match the headphones to the new frequency using their tuning selector or tuning button.

Steve Alexander covers technology for the Minneapolis Star Tribune. *Readers may write to him at Tech Q&A, 425 Portland Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn. 55488-0002; email: steve.j.alexander@gmail.com. Please include a full name, city and phone number.*

Off The Wall

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Police: Black cat crosses suspect's path, rats him out

EPHRATA, Pa. (AP)—A Pennsylvania police department says a black cat was lucky for one of its officers tracking down a fugitive. The Ephrata Police Department posted on its Facebook page that officers were searching for Jonathan Michael Steffy last month over an outstanding bench warrant. They found the 23-year-old in a backyard but he fled. As they searched the area, one officer noticed a black cat in a nearby yard staring intently at a shed. The officer checked that shed, but it was empty. The officer again saw the cat, and it became apparent it was staring at a different shed behind the officer. The officer opened that shed and found Steffy. Police say their thankful for any crime-fighting help, "whether human or feline!"

Rock-loving orangutan causes $220K damage at St. Louis zoo

ST. LOUIS (AP)—A rock-loving orangutan named Rubih went ape on the observation windows of her St. Louis zoo enclosure, forcing nearly $200,000 in repairs and the temporary closure of the exhibit. Zookeepers say the 12-year-old female orangutan repeatedly tapped and banged rocks against four 7-foot-tall windows over several months, causing considerable damage. The windows were replaced in mid-November and the exhibit is expected to open later this month, the St. Louis Post-Dispatch reports. Susan Gallagher, a spokeswoman for the zoo, said replacing the triple layer of glass with 3-inch thick acrylic required re-engineering the frames that hold them, plus caulking requiring three weeks to cure. Zoo officials say Rubih even dug up cement from the base of a tree for her destructive endeavors. The zoo's ape care team taught the orangutan to bring them rocks in exchange for treats. But the ape started banging on the windows with rocks when zookeepers weren't around, presumably to get someone's attention for a reward. Zookeepers now hope to train Rubih to drop rocks in a tube - regardless of whether staffers are around to reward her - and give her a treat if they later find rocks when they check the tube. With insurance coverage, the zoo ended up paying $71,000 out of pocket for the new windows.

Deck the...Look out! Woman tries to run over decorating ex

CONNELLSVILLE, Pa. (AP)—State police say holiday music was blaring from a Pennsylvania woman's car as she tore up the yard of her ex-boyfriend's home, nearly running the man and his family over. Forty-seven-year-old Mary Jo Smith was charged Tuesday with multiple offenses stemming from Monday's incident. Alan McCutcheon says he was setting up a Christmas light display outside of his Fayette County home when Smith yelled "Merry Christmas" and made several passes through his yard. State police say Smith attempted to hit the 64-year-old along with his wife and adult daughter. No one was injured. The joyride caused more than $500 in damage, leaving behind tire tracks and a trail of broken lights and decorations.

Police officer charged with slapping man dressed as bunny

HOPATCONG, N.J. (AP)—A police officer accused of slapping a man who was wearing a bunny costume and was blowing an air horn inside a police station has been charged with assault. Hopatcong police Officer Nicholas Maresca Jr. was charged on Friday with slapping Kevin Hemmerich on Nov. 17. He faces one count of simple assault. The encounter between Maresca and Hemmerich was captured on a video shot by Hemmerich's brother. The video shows Hemmerich entering the Hopatcong police station and blowing the air horn repeatedly despite being told to stop. Kevin Hemmerich's brother, Jason Hemmerich, said two officers began cursing at them and one hit Kevin Hemmerich in the face. Maresca's attorney, Anthony Iacullo, told NJ.com that Maresca "acted appropriately and in accordance with his training and experience as a police officer." He said Maresca would be vindicated. Jason Hemmerich said his brother went to the police station to turn himself in on a warrant related to a motor vehicle accident. Kevin Hemmerich faced an arrest warrant for not completing a work program that was in lieu of jail time for failing to have car insurance.

Ohio man's controversial 'Zombie Nativity' vandalized

CINCINNATI (AP)—A suburban Cincinnati man says someone vandalized the "Zombie Nativity" scene he puts up annually, beheading the ghoulish-looking Mary figure and flipping the greenish baby Jesus into the yard. Jasen Dixon says someone damaged the handmade scene early Tuesday at his home in Sycamore Township, northeast of Cincinnati. He has since repaired the scene and says he'll keep rebuilding it if necessary. Dixon tells WCPO-TV it's the first time someone has intentionally damaged the structure since he started the holiday display in 2014. But it's been a topic of controversy previously. The township took Dixon to court last year for alleged zoning violations because of the structure over the nontraditional nativity scene, but it eventually dropped the case. Dixon's attorney argued the township was trying to suppress his freedoms.

Manatee rescued off Cape Cod swims to another unusual spot

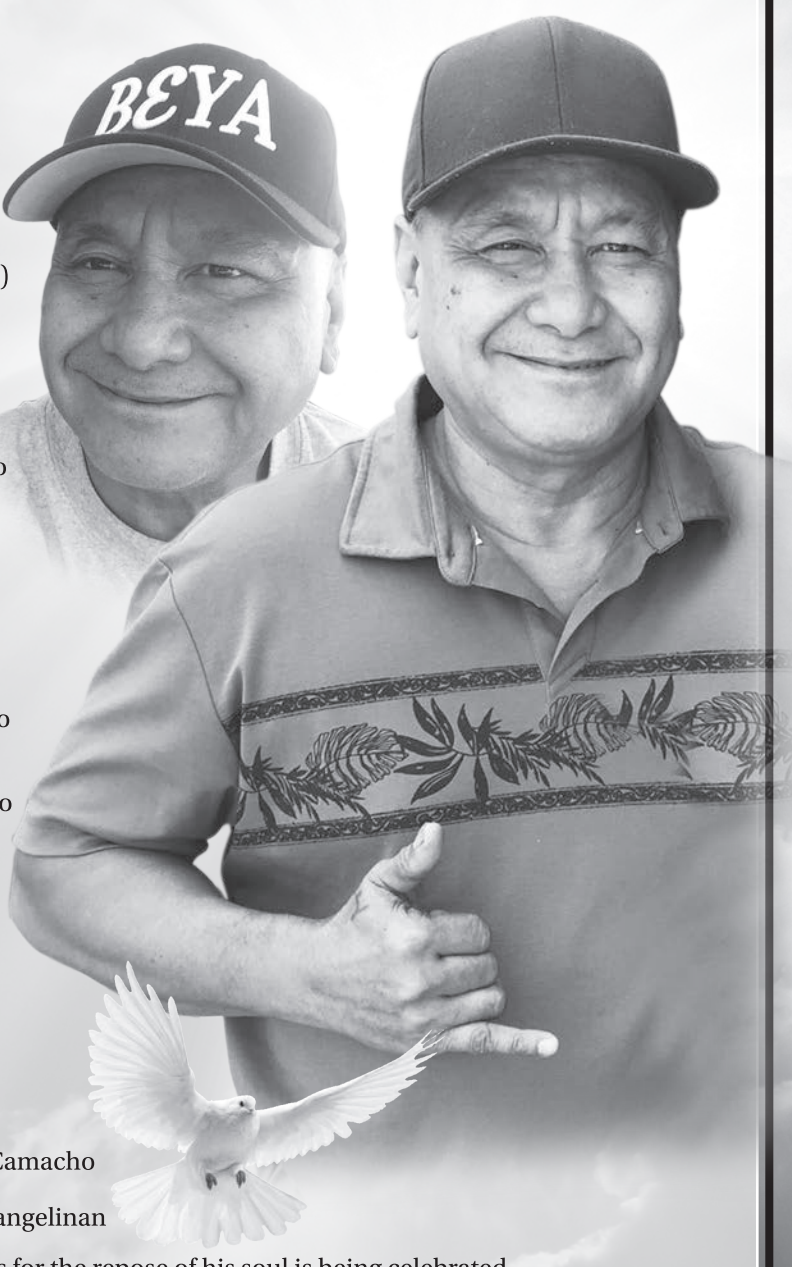
FALMOUTH, Mass. (AP)—The pregnant manatee rescued off Massachusetts' Cape Cod and released off Florida's Atlantic coast is now in another unusual place - the Bahamas. The Mystic Aquarium in Connecticut reported this week that the manatee dubbed Washburn has been electronically tracked to the islands, about 350 miles from where she was released Nov. 1. A Sea to Shore Alliance scientist says just as it was unusual to find a manatee off Massachusetts, it's also rare to find one near the Bahamas. She says Washburn "has us on our toes wondering where she'll go next." The manatee was rescued off Washburn Island in Falmouth on Sept. 22 because of concerns that northern waters would get too cold. She underwent a month of rehabilitation before being flown to Florida in October.

In Celebration of His New Life

†Thomas Masga Deleon Guerrero

Lovingly known as *"Tom Tofila"*

March 07, 1958-December 04, 2016 at the age of 58



Parents:
†Ignacio Sablan Deleon Guerrero
†Teofilia Masga Deleon Guerrero
†Gregorio Camacho Cabrera
†Escolastica Tudela Cabrera

Wife: Oliva Cabrera Deleon Guerrero
Children:
Jolene & Jay Doronila
(Tiana Kalei, Kyle Jay, Kevin Izrael)
Brent Cabrera Deleon Guerrero

Brothers & Sisters:
Jose M. & †Maria Pangelinan
Jose M. & Siriporn Deleon Guerrero
(†Isabelle Deleon Guerrero)
Herman M. & Asunta Deleon Guerrero
Edward M. & Lina Deleon Guerrero
(†Lourdes C. Deleon Guerrero)
Regina Dl.G. & †Douglas Cushnie
†Juan & Luisa Deleon Guerrero
Lucia M. Deleon Guerrero
Santiago M. & Tara Deleon Guerrero
Magdalena DLG. & Edward Aguon
Joaquina Dl.G. & Vicente Salas
Francisco M. & Joann Deleon Guerrero
Ignacio M. & Vivian Deleon Guerrero
David M. & Frances Deleon Guerrero
Vicente M. & Dorothy Deleon Guerrero
Maryann Dl.G. & John Sablan

Brothers & Sisters In Law:
Linda T. Cabrera
Isidoro & Susana Cabrera
Daria & David Cing
Millan C. & †Elroy Hill
Olinka T. Cabrera
Noe T. Cabrera & Carmen Sablan
Anthony T. Cabrera & Rizza Enriquez
Gloria C. Reyes
Rita T. Cabrera
Eleonita C. Camacho & †Raymond S. Camacho
Eloy T. Cabrera
Carmen C. Pangelinan & †Joaquin I. Pangelinan

Daily Mass of Intentions for the repose of his soul is being celebrated at San Vicente Church every evening at 6:00.

Funeral Services will be held on Monday, December 12, 2016. His remains will be escorted from Nuestra Senora dela Paz Memorial Chapel to Mount Carmel Cathedral at 7:00 am. Responso Service and Holy Rosary will take upon his arrival.
Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:00 am, followed by Interment Services at Sanctuario Pax Memorial Gardens, Kagman, where he will be at a peaceful rest.

Thank You, Si Yu'us Ma'ase and May God Bless us all.
Oliva C. Deleon Guerrero, Children, and the family of the late
†Thomas M. Deleon Guerrero

Life & Style

Trump is Time magazine's Person of the Year

WASHINGTON (AP)—Time magazine on Wednesday named Donald Trump its Person of the Year, bestowing what the president-elect called an "honor" even as he derided the idea that he'll lead "the Divided States of America."

That was a reference to Time's cover line—"Donald Trump: President of the Divided States of America"—that was positioned next to the cover photograph of the president-elect sitting in his private residence at Trump Tower.

"I didn't divide 'em," Trump said on NBC's "Today" show. "We're going to put it back together and we're going to have a country that's very well-healed."

Time editor Nancy Gibbs said the publication's choice was a "straightforward" choice of the person who has had the greatest influence on events "for better or worse."

Trump climbed from fiery underdog in the race for the GOP presidential nomination to winning the White House and defeating Democrat Hillary Clinton in the Nov. 8 election. Trump won 306 electoral votes, easily enough to make him president when the electors meet on Dec. 19. Clinton won the popular vote.

AP

This image provided by Time magazine, shows the cover of the magazine's Person of the Year edition with President-elect Donald Trump in New York.

He won in part by articulating in blunt, populist terms the racial, economic and other factors that divide Americans, many of whom have not felt the nation's recovery from recession. Trump stomped campaign traditions and social norms, including by insulting women, Muslims, Republican leaders, a reporter with disabilities and more. He also praised Russian President Vladimir Putin and last week irritated China and broke diplomatic norms by speaking by phone with the leader of Taiwan.

"When have we ever seen a single individual who has so defied expectations, broken the rules, violated norms, beaten not one but two political parties on the way to winning an election that he entered with 100-to-1 odds against him?" Gibbs said.

Clinton was the No. 2 finalist, Gibbs said. She said Clinton "came closer than any woman ever has to winning the White House, and in the process revealed, I think, both the opportunities and the obstacles that women face in the public square."

Judge refuses Brad Pitt's request to seal custody filings

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A judge on Wednesday rejected Brad Pitt's request to seal details about custody arrangements in his divorce from Angelina Jolie Pitt.

Los Angeles Superior Court Richard J. Burdge Jr. denied Pitt's request in a brief written order that states the filing did not meet the requirements for sealing details at this time. Pitt had sought to seal details of his custody dispute with Jolie Pitt at an emergency hearing, but Burdge declined to hear the petition on an expedited basis.

Pitt's motion came two days after the release of a custody agreement that he and his estranged wife reached in late October. The agreement calls for the actor to have visitation with his children under the guidance of a therapist.

Pitt intends to seek temporary custody orders soon, and his filing states that he wanted those documents sealed to protect the children's privacy. He was also seeking the sealing of any custody-related filings.

"I am extremely concerned that if court records regarding custody are not sealed, information contained therein will cause irreparable damage to our children's privacy rights," Pitt wrote in a sworn declaration filed Wednesday.

Pitt's attorney Gary Fishbein declined comment after the hearing.

Jolie Pitt filed for divorce in September and currently has primary custody of their six children.

Her attorneys wrote in court filings Wednesday that Pitt's request was an attempt to shield himself from embarrassing details when he seeks increased visitation with his children, stating that is contrary to a therapist's recommendation.

"His ... request is a thinly veiled attempt to shield himself, rather than the minor children, from public view," Jolie Pitt's attorneys wrote.

The divorce filing came days after a disagreement broke out on private flight ferrying the actors and their children from France to Los Angeles. Pitt was accused of being abusive toward his 15-year-old son during the flight, but investigations by child welfare officials and the FBI were closed with no charges being filed against the actor.

After filing for divorce, Jolie Pitt's attorney said it was done "for the health of the family."

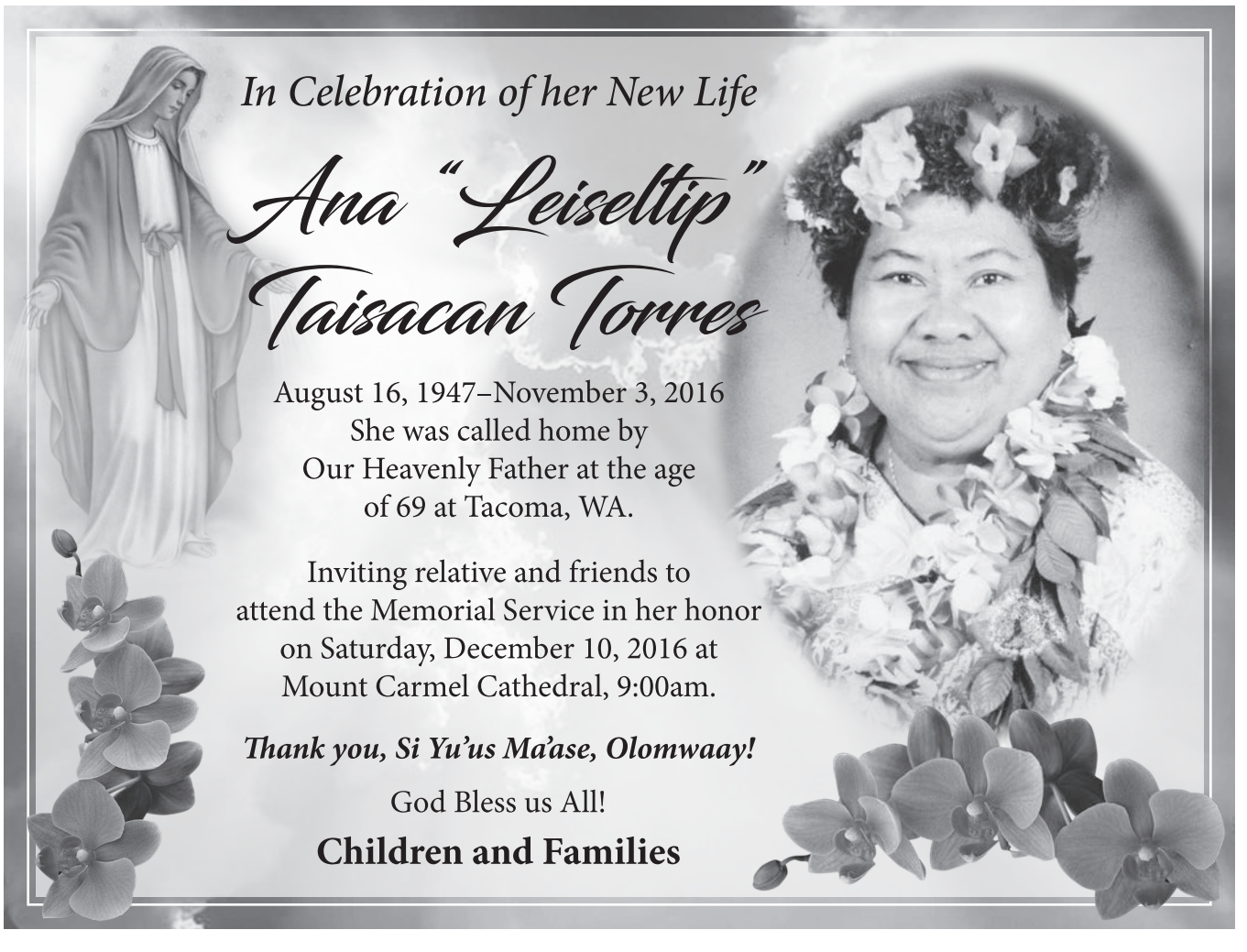
Custody has been the primary issue in the divorce. Jolie Pitt is seeking sole custody of the children, while Pitt is seeking joint custody.

Megyn Kelly, Tina Fey talk empowerment in the time of Trump

LOS ANGELES (AP)—"What an amazing year it's been for women," Tina Fey shouted out Wednesday morning before she buckled over with a sustained and slightly maniacal laugh. Speaking to a room of celebrities, Hollywood execs and reporters in Los Angeles at The Hollywood Reporter's annual Women in Entertainment event, Fey, accepting the Sherry Lansing Award for Leadership with her usual wit and humor, also said she wondered "how we can proceed in dignity in this increasingly ugly, misogynistic time?"

She suggested looking to her award's namesake, Sherry Lansing, the former CEO of Paramount Pictures for inspiration.

"You know Sherry Lansing has witnessed some nonsense and some behavior that the young people today would call 'triggering,'" Fey said.


In Celebration of her New Life
Ana "Leiseltip"
Taisacan Torres
August 16, 1947–November 3, 2016
She was called home by
Our Heavenly Father at the age
of 69 at Tacoma, WA.
Inviting relative and friends to
attend the Memorial Service in her honor
on Saturday, December 10, 2016 at
Mount Carmel Cathedral, 9:00am.
Thank you, Si Yu'us Ma'ase, Olomwaay!
God Bless us All!
Children and Families

Trump on the attack against 'SNL' again

NEW YORK (AP)—The chief critic-elect of "Saturday Night Live," Donald Trump, is bashing the show and impersonator Alec Baldwin again—this time prodded into action Wednesday by NBC's own Matt Lauer.

The president-elect called the late-night institution unfunny and Baldwin's portrayal of him mean-spirited, suggesting "Saturday Night Live" wasn't long for the world. Trump—who appeared as guest host on "SNL" in November 2015—has grumbled in tweets about the show three times since October, most recently last weekend after Baldwin and Kate McKinnon appeared in a skit about his Twitter habit.

Trump's frequent tweeting was raised by Lauer in a telephone interview on the "Today" show following Time magazine's selection of the president-elect as its Person of the Year.

"Can we agree, President-elect Trump, that it would be better for you to simply stop watching 'SNL' as opposed to watching and then complaining about it?" Lauer said.

His question was no ad-lib, since NBC quickly aired clips of the Baldwin-McKinnon sketch as Trump replied.

"I hosted 'SNL' when it was a good show but it's not a good show anymore," said Trump, who also took a turn as guest host in 2004. "First of all, nothing to do with me, there's nothing funny about it. The skits are terrible. I like Alec, but his imitation of me is really mean-spirited and not very good ... It's very biased and I don't like it."

And yet, Lauer noted, he still watches.

"You look at the way the show is going now and the kind of work they're doing, who knows how long the show is going to be on? It's a terrible show," Trump said.

Fact check: "Saturday Night Live" is in its 42nd season and enjoying its best ratings since 1992, the Nielsen company said. Viewership is up 33 percent over 2015.

Study: 2016 campaign coverage was overwhelmingly negative

NEW YORK (AP)—A Harvard University study released Wednesday concludes that media coverage of the 2016 presidential election was topped only by the 2000 Bush-Gore campaign for its overwhelming negativity.

Strip away "horse race" stories about who was leading or trailing in the polls, and coverage of issues relating to Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton's fitness for office was an identical 87 percent negative for each candidate, said the report by Harvard's Shorenstein Center on Media, Politics and Public Policy.

"The real bias of the press is not that it's liberal. Its bias is a decided preference for the negative," said the report, written by Harvard political science professor Thomas Patterson.

The report looked at coverage on ABC, CBS, NBC, CNN and Fox News Channel nightly newscasts, along with The New York Times, Los Angeles Times, USA Today, The Washington Post and The Wall Street Journal. The media analysis firm Media Tenor judged the tone of stories. For instance, a story about the FBI reopening an investigation into Clinton's emails was judged a negative for her, and a USA Today story about lawsuits against Trump and his business was a negative for him.

With all stories included, Patterson said 71 percent of the overall coverage for Trump and Clinton was negative, 29 percent positive. The 2000 race was 75-to-25 percent negative. From his announcement, Trump received far more attention than any rival. This fall, Trump had more opportunities in the media to define his opponent than Clinton had with him, the report said.

Patterson said there was more coverage about Clinton's emails than any policy issues put forth by either candidate.

During the nomination fight, Trump crowded out his opponents in the media. Evidence that his campaign was catching on led to more positive coverage. "My sense is that a lot of the early coverage was so 'isn't this fun' that I think he got some insulation from being outrageous," Patterson said.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Singer Sia and filmmaker-husband Erik Anders Lang separate

NEW YORK (AP)—Grammy-nominated singer Sia and her filmmaker-husband, Erik Anders Lang, are separating. In a statement released through a spokesperson Wednesday, Sia and Lang said "after much soul searching and consideration we have made the decision to separate as a couple." They were married in August 2014. They said they are "dedicated to remaining friends." No more details were provided. Sia, who has written songs for Beyonce, Rihanna, Katy Perry and others, is known for her own hits like "Chandelier" and "Cheap Thrills." She earned three Grammy nominations Tuesday, including best pop vocal album for "This Is Acting." Lang's website says he has created documentaries for Louis Vuitton, Honda, MTV and other companies.

Auction of Shirley Temple items includes childhood tap shoes

DALLAS (AP)—Two pairs of tap shoes belonging to the child movie star Shirley Temple have sold at auction for $20,000. Heritage Auctions says a diamond ring given to the child who sang and danced her way into moviegoers' hearts by her father fetched $137,500. The two-day auction of jewelry, outfits, awards and other keepsakes that ended Tuesday brought in more than $1.6 million for the family of Temple, who was known in private life as Shirley Temple Black. She died in 2014 at age 85. A diamond broach worn by both Temple and her mother sold for $250,000. A small, red tambourine used by Temple's mother to teach her rhythm for dancing sold for $2,500.

Michelle Obama on election night: 'I went to bed'

WASHINGTON (AP)—While many Americans stayed up late on election night to find out who would win the White House, first lady Michelle Obama says she went to bed. Mrs. Obama tells People magazine , "I don't like to watch the political discourse; I never have." She says she turned in early because, "Once you do what you can do, then the rest is easy. It was in the hands of the American people." While Mrs. Obama was a sharp critic of Trump during the campaign, she tells the magazine she's willing to do her part to ensure a smooth transition. She says, "We are ready to work with the next administration and make sure they are as successful as they can be. Because that's what's best for this country."

Dogs and babies among Helen Mirren's acting inspirations

NEW YORK (AP)—Helen Mirren's acting inspirations involve fur and diapers.

The Oscar-winning actress says she hopes to capture the magic of dogs and babies in her performances because "you cannot take your eyes off them ... they are fantastic."

Mirren, 71, spoke earlier this week at a Manhattan lunch celebrating her AARP cover for December/January. The actress, who is starring as Death in this month's "Collateral Beauty," tried to offer an explanation as to how she's maintained her longevity in Hollywood. She credited her work in theater and the fact that she never had any interest in being a movie star.

But Mirren said she was able to "let go" and not focus on trying to be what she may have once been—a problem she sees for other actors her age.

"They're clinging on to what they were, and they aren't that anymore," she said.

And while Mirren is celebrated for her looks as well as her acting, she dismissed the notion of being a sex symbol: "I would argue ... I'm so not that."

"It's just something that gets hung on your backpack, and you can never get it off," she said.

AP

In this Friday, Nov. 11, 2016, file photo, Helen Mirren attends the premiere of "The Comedian" during the 2016 AFI Fest at the Egyptian Theatre in Los Angeles.

AP Source: Grammy country committee rejects Beyonce song

NEW YORK (AP)—Beyonce earned a whopping nine Grammy nominations Tuesday, including best rock performance, but the singer's twangy song "Daddy Lessons" was rejected by the Recording Academy's country music committee.

A person familiar with the Grammy nomination process told The Associated Press on Wednesday that Beyonce submitted "Daddy Lessons"—from her album "Lemonade"—to the country category. The person, who spoke on condition of anonymity because the person was not allowed to speak publicly about the topic, said the country music committee rejected the song.

If Beyonce's song had made it through, it would have been eligible for honors such as best country song and country solo performance.

Representatives for Beyonce and the Grammys didn't immediately reply to emails seeking comment.

"Daddy Lessons" highlights the Houston native's Southern music roots, incorporating horns, acoustic guitar and hand claps as Beyonce sings about lessons she learned from her father and former manager. The lyrics include references to the Second Amendment, the Bible and shooting guns.

Beyonce performed the track at last month's Country Music Association Awards alongside the Dixie Chicks, and later released a version of the song featuring the country trio.

Ex-military couple can't agree on a continent to call home

DEAR ABBY: My husband recently retired from the military. We have four school-aged children. The youngest is starting kindergarten, and I would like to go back to work and finally use my college degree. My husband wants to take a job overseas, but I would likely be unable to work due to the language barrier.

I want to settle down in a location I love, doing a job I love. My husband worked hard to get this job and I hate to discourage him. I didn't realize I would feel so strongly about settling down until very recently. I don't want to move and he doesn't want to give up this job.

He suggested we live separately. Our marriage is otherwise happy, and due to the military we have had a long-distance marriage many times before, just not for as long as this would be. Should I try moving overseas?

WANTS TO SETTLE DOWN

DEAR WANTS TO SETTLE DOWN: Yes, for the sake of your marriage, I think you should. And when you're there, explore finding a way to put the degree you worked so hard to attain to use. The experience of living in a foreign country would be good for your children, and you might enjoy the adventure yourself. If that's not the case, you can always return to the U.S. and see if a bi-continental marriage works for you.

DEAR ABBY: I am writing this as I sit in a hospital at my daughter's bedside. When staff comes into her room, she asks them to wash their hands in front of her before putting on their gloves. Several doctors took offense at this. We even posted a note on the door, asking the staff to wash up inside the room. Were we wrong? She doesn't want to increase her risk of infection. I would think that a patient worried about proper hygiene would not be sneered at by the people trying to get her healthy.

TRYING TO STAY HEALTHY

DEAR TRYING TO STAY HEALTHY: Bravo to you for speaking up! According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, hospital-acquired infections have cost the hospital industry $30 billion and resulted in 100,000 patient deaths. A 2013 New York Times article reported that unless pushed to do so, hospital workers wash their hands only as little as 30 percent of the time they interact with patients. The problem is so widespread that some hospitals must monitor workers via video cameras or have them wear electronic badges to "encourage" compliance, while others have resorted to "bribing" workers to do the right thing.

You were not wrong to ask staffers at your daughter's hospital to wash their hands. Nobody should feel reluctant to ask for something that is standard procedure.

Because many patients in hospitals and care facilities feel vulnerable and dependent, they fear that staff will "dislike" them if they ask for too much. For patients to request handwashing is not only in their best interest, but also the hospital's. Too often, change doesn't happen in the medical profession until patients speak up and advocate for their own well-being. You would not have been "sneered at" if your request hadn't made those individuals feel defensive.

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

DEAR ABBY: When dining out with a group, when is the proper time to ask for separate checks? Before ordering or after the dinner is over?

BEFORE OR AFTER

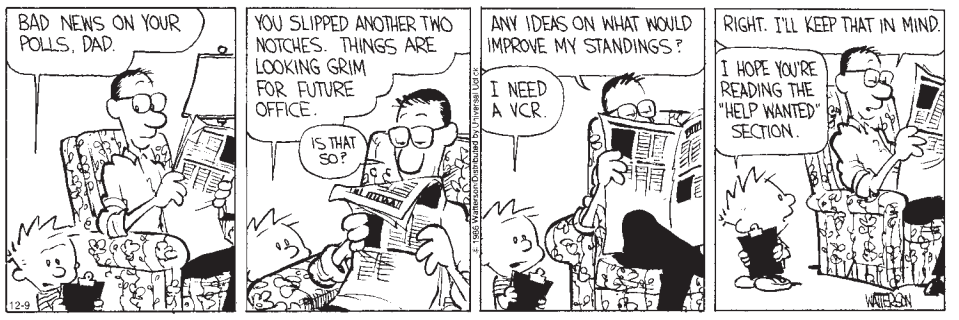
DEAR B. OR A.: Because you are with a group, it would make more sense to inform your server before he or she starts taking your orders.

To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. Shipping and handling are included in the price.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

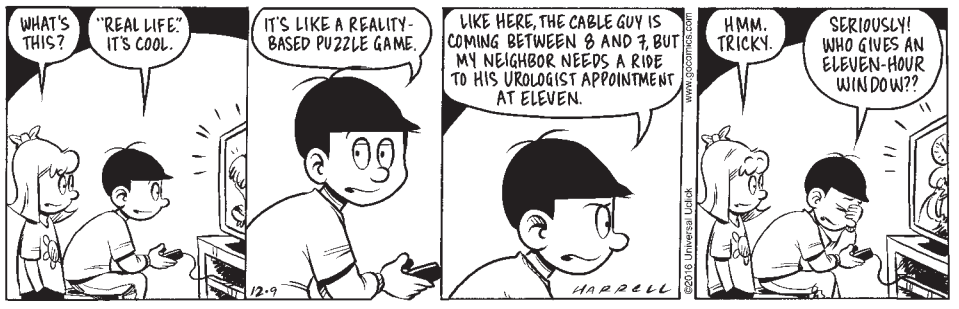

BAD NEWS ON YOUR POLLS, DAD.
YOU SLIPPED ANOTHER TWO NOTCHES. THINGS ARE LOOKING GRIM FOR FUTURE OFFICE.
IS THAT SO?
ANY IDEAS ON WHAT WOULD IMPROVE MY STANDINGS?
I NEED A VCR.
RIGHT. I'LL KEEP THAT IN MIND.
I HOPE YOU'RE READING THE "HELP WANTED" SECTION.
WATTERSON

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


WHAT'S THIS?
"REAL LIFE." IT'S COOL.
IT'S LIKE A REALITY-BASED PUZZLE GAME.
LIKE HERE, THE CABLE GUY IS COMING BETWEEN 8 AND 7, BUT MY NEIGHBOR NEEDS A RIDE TO HIS UROLOGIST APPOINTMENT AT ELEVEN.
HMM. TRICKY.
SERIOUSLY! WHO GIVES AN ELEVEN-HOUR WINDOW??
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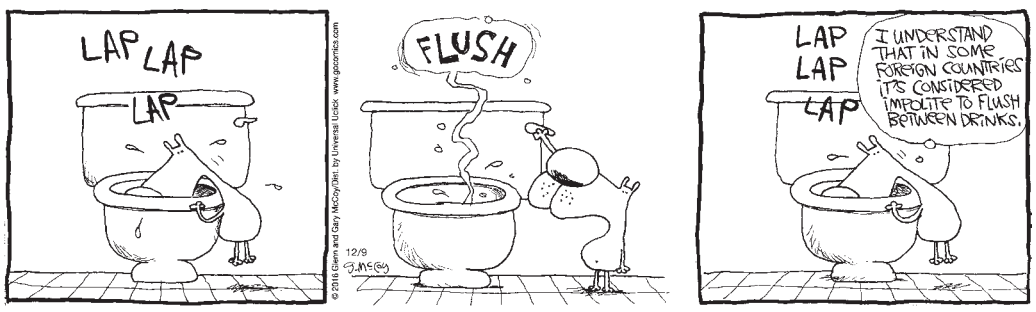
HARRELL

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy


LAP LAP LAP
FLUSH
LAP LAP LAP
I UNDERSTAND THAT IN SOME FOREIGN COUNTRIES IT'S CONSIDERED IMPOLITE TO FLUSH BETWEEN DRINKS.
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CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Buddy
4 Gullets
8 Church area
12 Actress Gretchen
13 Lamb alias
14 Mother of Zeus
15 Going by
17 Clothing store section
18 Bog fuel
19 Risqué
20 Bulb rating
22 Graceful bird
24 French 101 verb
25 Right away
29 School org.
30 Dutch cheese
31 Fish story
32 Astaire specialty
34 Kate of "The Martian"
35 Jeopardize
36 Hamelin musician
37 Influence
40 Pt. of speech
41 Sitarist Shankar
42 Hasty and careless
46 On the rocks
47 Vanished
48 "Evita" narrator
49 Stein and Stiller
50 Low digits
51 Crucial

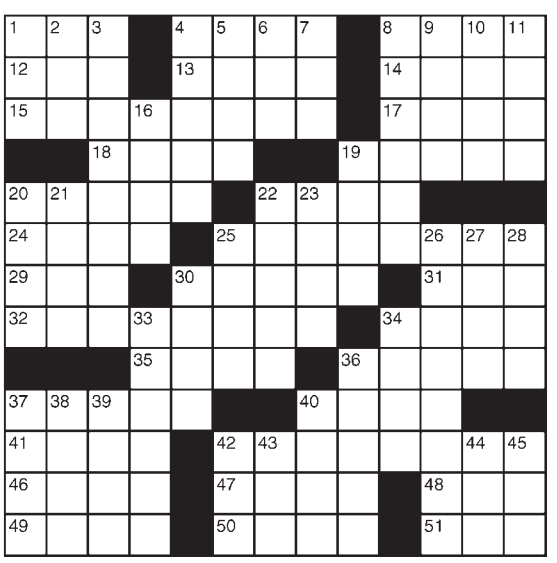
DOWN

1 French Mrs.
2 MSN rival
3 Nonsense
4 Miniplateaus
5 Landed
6 Victory
7 Droop
8 Designer Giorgio
9 "That was close!"
10 Fax
11 Relaxed
16 Tennis star Sampras
19 Mexican peninsula
20 Sobbed
21 "— girl!"
22 Crept furtively
23 Test the waters
25 Charged bits
26 Pancake
27 Blaze
28 Calendar quota
30 Pace
33 Celtic priests
34 Behave
36 Vatican VIPs
37 First bed
38 Chantilly, e.g.
39 It takes the cake
40 Walking stick
42 Pvt.'s superior
43 Privy
44 That girl
45 "Psst!"

Solution time: 26 mins.

A	S	A	P	■	D	O	N	■	B	E	A	M
J	I	M	A	■	I	S	O	■	L	U	N	A
A	M	O	R	■	J	U	S	■	I	P	A	D
M	I	K	A	D	O	■	W	I	T	H	■	■
■	■	■	D	A	N	G	E	R	Z	O	N	E
R	O	S	E	S	■	O	A	K	■	R	O	T
U	K	E	S	■	O	T	T	■	V	I	V	A
E	L	L	■	E	D	U	■	D	E	C	A	L
S	A	F	E	T	Y	P	I	N	S	■	■	■
■	■	M	U	S	S	■	N	A	P	L	E	S
B	L	A	B	■	S	A	D	■	E	I	R	E
A	U	D	I	■	E	L	I	■	R	E	N	E
A	G	E	E	■	Y	E	A	■	S	U	E	D

Yesterday's answer 12-9



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Felicity Huffman, 54; Donny Osmond, 59; Beau Bridges, 75; Dame Judi Dench, 82.

Happy Birthday: A year of positive change awaits you. Don't sit back when you should be moving full speed ahead. Channel your energy into advancing on all fronts. Pursue a better job, greater income, home improvements, and do everything you can to ensure that your love life and personal health are top priorities. Embrace life and forge ahead. Your numbers are 8, 12, 22, 25, 34, 39, 41.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): You'll find it difficult to stick to just one thing. Set strict guidelines and follow your chosen path closely. Learn from past experiences so that you don't make the same mistakes twice. Make changes based on facts, not assumptions. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Get in the game and challenge your intelligence. Put some effort into how you move forward when dealing with others. Figure out what you need to pursue something you want to do. Don't neglect your health or your personal responsibilities. ✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Put health, personal plans and romance at the top of your list. Explore new interests and make new friends. Share your emotions and concerns with others and do your best to make personal improvements. Travel looks inviting. ✪✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Think before you react. You'll save a lot of time if you refuse to get entangled in emotional situations that cannot be resolved. Focus on self-improvement, learning and exploring ways to master your skills instead of trying to change others. ✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Personal changes look promising. A business or pleasure trip will encourage new partnerships and bring about physical changes that will raise your confidence. Romance is in the stars and will raise your self-esteem. ✪✪✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Don't feel the need to overspend in order to impress someone or give in to the financial demands someone makes. You'll do best if you stay focused on personal needs and exploring what works best for you. Avoid unnecessary changes. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): You'll have lots of options but might find it difficult to decide. Take care of your responsibilities early in the day to avoid missing out on something you really want to pursue. Love and romance are encouraged. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Discussing travel plans or visiting someone who can share knowledge and insight into your cultural background will lead to a breakthrough regarding what path to follow. An unexpected change will turn out to be beneficial. Embrace the future. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Good fortune will be yours if you follow through with a plan that will help lower your overhead or increase your income. Look for new opportunities and you will find a way to secure your financial and emotional future. ✪✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Emotional discussions will lead to sudden and unexpected changes. Don't let regret take over because you couldn't contain a situation with someone you care about. Be willing to compromise and to admit when you make a mistake. ✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Romance will bring about positive changes. Take better care of your health and check out alternative options that will encourage you to save more and spend less. Don't let someone or something from your past get in your way. ✪✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): You'll be torn between what you can offer and what's being asked of you. Make your positions clear and don't promise anything that might jeopardize your position, health or financial future. Time is on your side. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are a mover and a shaker. You aim to please and to advance.

*Eugenia's website—**eugenialast.com**, Eugenia's android app @ **http://bit.ly/exhoro** and join Eugenia on **twitter/facebook/linkedin**.*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

		4	9	1				
	5				8	2		
1							7	
7							6	
3				4				9
	1							8
	9							5
		6	7				4	
				3	9	6		

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 12/09

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

9	7	4	2	1	5	6	8	3
6	3	8	4	9	7	2	5	1
5	1	2	6	8	3	9	4	7
4	5	3	1	6	8	7	9	2
2	9	1	7	3	4	8	6	5
8	6	7	5	2	9	1	3	4
3	4	6	9	7	1	5	2	8
7	2	5	8	4	6	3	1	9
1	8	9	3	5	2	4	7	6

Difficulty Level ★★★ 12/08

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

THE iCLOUD Solution: 9 letters

E	D	Y	A	P	P	S	S	E	C	C	A	Y	M	C
V	E	E	M	I	T	Y	N	A	L	P	F	R	N	O
A	T	A	I	T	U	N	E	S	T	I	P	O	D	M
S	A	R	E	M	A	C	E	N	N	A	I	M	C	M
E	C	S	A	P	A	C	E	D	C	T	D	E	O	E
G	O	I	P	P	U	M	Y	A	U	A	T	M	L	N
A	L	L	T	R	U	B	L	L	U	F	E	U	L	T
S	E	U	E	C	C	E	O	O	I	N	X	S	E	S
S	R	E	O	I	N	Ⓢ	B	O	T	M	T	I	C	G
E	N	D	N	D	E	A	Ⓘ	S	K	O	A	C	T	N
M	I	A	A	R	C	L	B	Ⓣ	P	M	H	F	I	I
A	N	R	H	K	T	B	O	O	Ⓔ	I	A	P	O	R
T	G	G	U	S	H	U	O	D	A	O	L	R	N	A
C	I	P	O	S	T	M	K	R	O	W	I	C	K	H
H	S	U	E	F	A	S	S	G	N	I	T	T	E	S

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Access, Albums, Anytime, Apple, Apps, Backup, Bookmarks, Calendar, Camera, Capture, Clips, Collection, Comments, Data, Document, Family, Find, Full, High Resolution, iBooks, iPod, iTunes, iWork, Load, Located, Mail, Match, Memory, Messages, Moments, Music, Photo, Plan, Post, Safe, Save, Secure, Settings, Sharing, Sign In, Site, Text, Upgrade, Years

Yesterday's Answer: Cherry

Purchase **THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD**, Volumes 37 through 48 in time for the holidays! Order online at WonderWordBooks.com or call 1-800-642-6480.

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Associate's degree in Graphic Design or other related field. Minimum of 3 years work experience doing computer graphics and newspaper layout. Proficiency in Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator and Adobe InDesign is a must. Must be familiar with offset printing process, computer peripherals, and Mac operating system. Strong organizational and self-management skills, including the ability to multi-task and prioritize are required. Can work flexible hours, weekends, and holidays, depending on demand.

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James scores 25 as Cavaliers crush Knicks, 126-94

NEW YORK (AP)—LeBron James had little to say about his choice of hotels and even less about Phil Jackson's choice of words.

James and his teammates made their statement loudly on the court.

James scored 25 points, Kyrie Irving and Kevin Love also surpassed 20, and the Cleveland Cavaliers crushed the New York Knicks 126-94 on Wednesday night.

It was the first meeting since James was angered when Jackson referred to his friends and business partners as a "posse" last month in an ESPN interview. James refused to answer questions about the Knicks president, who watched the game from his usual seat a few rows back of center court.

"I'm motivated for the love of the game, I'm motivated by the process, I'm motivated knowing that my kids are watching me tonight on national television," James said. "So I don't need much more."

The Cavs, who didn't stay together in New York after James and some other players opted against staying in the team's Donald Trump-branded hotel, won their second straight after a three-game skid.

Irving led Cleveland with 28 points and Love scored 21, 16 in the first quarter, in Cleveland's eighth straight victory over New York.

"We're going to go through skids, we're not the perfect team," Irving said. "But we also know what we have as a team when we collectively come together and it's a beautiful thing."

Brandon Jennings scored 16 points for the Knicks, who had their four-game winning streak snapped and lost for the just the third time in 10 games. He started for Derrick Rose, who missed his first game of the season with lower back pain.

The Cavs made 22 3-pointers in 40 attempts.

"They played unbelievable and made all those shots," Knicks forward Kristaps Porzingis said. "It's really hard to stop a team like that."

James and Love outscored Porzingis and Carmelo Anthony 46-20.

Tristan Thompson grabbed 20 rebounds for the Cavs. They played without guard J.R. Smith, who returned to Cleveland for additional testing after hyperextending his left knee Monday in Toronto.

Love and Irving made consecutive 3-pointers to kick off a 20-4 spurt that extended a one-point lead to 34-17 and the Knicks never really recovered. They trimmed it to nine late in the first half, but James had a ferocious dunk during the Cavs' run of six straight points, and another burst to open the second half pushed it to 71-48 on Irving's 3-pointer.

AP

Cleveland Cavaliers forward LeBron James (23) drives to the basket with New York Knicks forward Carmelo Anthony (7) defending in the first quarter of an NBA basketball game at Madison Square Garden in New York, Wednesday, Dec. 7, 2016.

Warriors 115, Clippers 98

In Los Angeles, Klay Thompson scored 24 points, Draymond Green added 22 points and the Warriors routed the Clippers for their seventh straight win over Los Angeles.

Stephen Curry had 19 points for Golden State, and Kevin Durant, who came in averaging a team-best 27 points, was held to 16 on 5-of-17 shooting.

Curry failed to make a 3-pointer for just the second time this season, going 0 of 8. The Warriors were 7 of 30 from long range.

Jamal Crawford scored 21 points for the Clippers, who have lost five of seven. Four of their seven overall losses have come at home.

Bucks 115, Trail Blazers 107

In Milwaukee, Giannis Antetokounmpo had his second triple-double of the season to lead Milwaukee past Portland.

Antetokounmpo had 15 points, 12 rebounds and 11 assists for his seventh career triple-double—second-most in franchise history—and is the only NBA player averaging at least 20 points, eight rebounds, five assists, two blocks and two steals this season.

Jabari Parker added 27 points for Milwaukee.

Damian Lillard had 30 points, seven rebounds and six assists for Portland.

Rockets 134, Lakers 95

In Houston, Eric Gordon made a career-high eight 3-pointers and scored 26 points to help Houston rout Los Angeles.

James Harden added 25 points in three quarters for the Rockets. They scored a season high and extended their winning streak to a season-best four games.

Lou Williams led the Lakers with 24 points. They have lost four in a row, their longest skid of the season.

Hawks 103, Heat 95

In Atlanta, Dwight Howard had 23 points and 17 rebounds, Paul Millsap added 21 points and Atlanta beat Miami to snap a seven-game losing streak.

The Hawks had lost 10 of 11 and had gone 14 days without a victory.

Tyler Johnson scored a career-high 27 points for Miami, and Goran Dragic added 21. The Heat have lost three straight.

Hornets 87, Pistons 77

In Charlotte, N.C., Kemba Walker scored 14 of his 25 points in the fourth quarter, and Nic Batum had 14 points and 14 rebounds for Charlotte.

The Hornets won for the third time in four games despite being held to 38 points in the first half on 27 percent shooting. Marvin Williams returned to Charlotte's starting lineup after missing the last six games with a hyperextended knee. He had 12 points and five rebounds.

Andre Drummond had 26 points and 20 rebounds for the Pistons.

Nets 116, Nuggets 111

In New York, Brook Lopez scored 24 points, Sean Kilpatrick had 22 and Brooklyn held off Denver.

Brooklyn led by as many as 29 points midway through the third quarter, but Denver closed to 103-99 on Kenneth Faried's layup with 4:31 left. Bojan Bogdanovic and Kilpatrick each made two foul shots in the final 13 seconds to help secure the win for the Nets.

Wilson Chandler led the Nuggets with 27 points and 15 rebounds.

Celtics 117, Magic 87

In Orlando, Fla., Avery Bradley scored 23 points to help Boston rout Orlando.

Terry Rozier added 16 points, Jae Crowder had 15 points and 10 rebounds, and Amir Johnson, Jaylen Brown and Marcus Smart each had 13 points. D.J. Augustin scored 15 points for Orlando.

Pacers 109, Suns 94

In Phoenix, Paul George had 25 points and 13 rebounds and Indiana pulled away to beat Phoenix.

Myles Turner added 20 points, and Jeff Teague had 19 points and 11 assists. Indiana had a 9-0 run midway through the fourth quarter to open a 97-87 lead.

Eric Bledsoe led Phoenix with 15 points. The Suns shot 40 percent from the field and made only 9 of 33 3-pointers. They have lost five of six.

Kings 120, Mavericks 89

In Dallas, DeMarcus Cousins had 24 points and 14 rebounds, and Sacramento snapped a three-game losing streak with a victory over last-place Dallas.

Rudy Gay added 19 for the Kings. Deron Williams led Dallas with 20 points.

Michael Jordan wins China court ruling after years-long case

BEIJING (AP)—China's highest court on Thursday ruled in favor of basketball legend Michael Jordan at the culmination of a years-long case over use of the Chinese rendering of his globally-known name and trademark.

The former NBA star has been in a dispute with a sportswear company based in southern China called Qiaodan Sports since 2012. He had previously argued unsuccessfully in Beijing courts that they had used his Chinese name "Qiaodan" by which he has been known since he gained widespread popularity in the mid-1980s, his old jersey number 23 and basketball player logo to make it look like he was associated with their brand.

The Supreme People's Court on Thursday announced that it was overturning two rulings by Beijing courts against Jordan from 2014 and 2015 that had found there wasn't sufficient evidence to support the athlete's allegations over the use of his image. It also ordered the trademark bureau to issue a new ruling on the use of the Chinese characters in the brand name "Qiaodan."

Pronounced "CHEEOW-dan," it is the transliteration of "Jordan" in Mandarin.

The court's judgment was broadcast live on its website.

Jordan said in a statement that millions of Chinese fans and consumers had always known him by the name Qiaodan and that he was happy the court had recognized his right to protect his name.

"Chinese consumers deserve to know that Qiaodan Sports and its products have no connection to me. Nothing is more important than protecting your own name, and today's decision shows the importance of that principle," Jordan said.

In a twist to the legal saga, Qiaodan Sports successfully counter-sued Jordan in 2013 for preventing it from pursuing a stock market listing because of the trademark lawsuit.

The Beijing law firm representing Qiaodan Sports Co. Ltd. declined to comment.

The case reflects the difficulties faced by foreign individuals and companies in protecting their copyrights in China, where domestic firms have long taken a cavalier attitude toward intellectual property.

Numerous Chinese companies sell products with names that sound suspiciously similar to well-known foreign brands, often with only one or two letters changed.

Chinese law protects foreign companies in cases where their brand was already famous in China before being registered by a Chinese firm seeking to capitalize on its notoriety.

However, Apple Inc. lost a legal battle earlier this year when a Beijing court ruled the company had failed to prove that iPhone was a famous brand in China before a Chinese company applied for the "iPhone" trademark in 2007. The Chinese company uses "iPhone" on its handbags and mobile phone cases.

Cubs get Davis, Yankees get Chapman, Nats trade 3 young arms

OXON HILL, Md. (AP)—The champion Chicago Cubs filled their only real need, getting All-Star reliever Wade Davis. He'll take the spot of closer Aroldis Chapman, who locked down a spot by returning to the New York Yankees with a whopping $86 million deal.

As for the Washington Nationals, well, they opened quite a debate Wednesday by trading not one, not two, but three talented, young pitchers for White Sox outfielder Adam Eaton.

And as the winter meetings wound down, the Yankees struck just before midnight. They reached a five-year deal with Chapman, according to a person familiar with the contract. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because the contract was still pending a physical—it would be the richest deal ever for a reliever, shattering the $62 million, five-year pact Mark Melancon got from San Francisco just a couple days ago.

Chapman was acquired by New York from the Cincinnati Reds last offseason, then missed the first 29 games of the season due to a domestic violence suspension from Major League Baseball. The Cuban was traded to the Chicago Cubs in late July and helped them win the World Series, becoming a free agent when it was over.

Ian Desmond also wound up in a new spot, reaching a $70 million agreement with Colorado on the last full day of baseball's annual gathering. The session ends Thursday morning after the Rule 5 draft, mostly for players left off 40-man rosters.

"The free agent market and the trade markets have both been a little slow," Mets general manager Sandy Alderson said earlier in the day. "Things are picking up a little bit."

Closer Kenley Jansen was still in play, and Pittsburgh didn't trade—not yet, anyway—outfielder Andrew McCutchen.

As expected, the Cubs completed a deal for Davis. To get a closer who's been dominant for the last three years, the World Series champions sent outfielder Jorge Soler to Kansas City.

Davis, who finished out the Royals' win that clinched their 2015 title, moved right into the ninth-inning role Chapman held at Wrigley Field.

Cubs manager Joe Maddon avoided any assessment of who was best. Instead, he offered: "They're just different kind of pitchers."

But the opinions weren't so blurred after the NL East champion Nationals made their deal with the White Sox.

A day after missing out on White Sox ace Chris Sale, Washington traded top prospect Lucas Giolito, strong-armed Reynaldo Lopez and 2016 first-round draft pick Dane Dunning to get Eaton from Chicago.

Right away, Nats fans lit up Twitter, wondering why their team paid such a hefty price. Washington GM Mike Rizzo didn't blink at swapping the trio.

"We feel comfortable with the deal. We've done a lot of deals. I like win-win deals," he said.

"I think the White Sox did a great job of acquiring good, potential upside players. We got ourselves a good, young skillful player that we can control at below-market values for five seasons. And, again, you got to give to get," he said.

Eaton, who turned 28 on Tuesday, batted .284 with 14 home runs and 59 RBIs, stealing 14 bases and hitting an AL-leading nine triples. He topped the majors with 18 outfield assists.

"We see the arrow still going up with him," Rizzo said.

Praised Nationals manager Dusty Baker: "He's not afraid to get dirty and grimy, greasy, nasty—do everything there is to beat you."

The 22-year-old Giolito was the Nationals' first-round pick in 2012. He made his big league debut in June and was 0-1 with a 6.75 ERA in six starts in the majors.

Lopez is also 22, and went 5-3 with a 4.91 ERA in 11 games last season. The 21-year-old Dunning was drafted out of Florida.

"We view all three of them, actually, as having the potential to become front-end-of-the-rotation pitchers," White Sox GM Rick Hahn said. "There's still a fair amount of development with each of them."

In other deals, San Francisco traded pitcher Chris Heston to Seattle Mariners for a player to be named. Heston pitched a no-hitter in going 12-11 as a rookie in 2015, but spent most of this year in the minors.

Also, the Marlins reached agreements with pitcher Jeff Locke and catcher A.J. Ellis.

Sale on yielding ace role: 'We play for a trophy, not a tag'

BOSTON (AP)—Chris Sale said he isn't worried that he might not be the ace of the Boston pitching staff after being added to a Red Sox rotation that already includes David Price and reigning AL Cy Young winner Rick Porcello.

"We play for a trophy, not a tag," Sale said on a conference call Wednesday, a day after the AL East champions acquired him from the Chicago White Sox for a package of four minor leaguers that includes No. 1 prospect Yoan Moncada. "It takes some pressure off of everybody. Just go out there and pitch, because you don't feel like you have this huge weight on your shoulders to win this game."

A five-time All-Star who finished in the top six of the Cy Young voting the last five years, Sale was traded to Boston on Tuesday at the winter meetings for four prospects - including Moncada, who was Baseball America's minor leaguer of the year this season. Sale was the premier pitcher on the market following a season of spats with White Sox management over clubhouse issues.

Among them: A bizarre incident in which Sale was suspended for five days after taking a scissors to the day's throwback uniforms because he said they were uncomfortable. (He also had to pay for the shredded jerseys.) During spring training, Sale also complained about new limits on Adam LaRoche's son hanging around the clubhouse, a management decision that prompted LaRoche to retire.

"It didn't work out. I really wish it did," Sale said on Wednesday. "I appreciate my time with the White Sox and I'm looking forward to the next chapter."

The next chapter brings him to Boston, where he will join Price, the 2012 Cy Young winner, and Porcello in a lefty-heavy rotation that also could include All-Star Steven Wright, Eduardo Rodriguez, Drew Pomeranz and Clay Buchholz. Asked before the official start of winter who his opening day starter will be, manager John Farrell said, "We'll have plenty of time to figure that out."

"There's a surplus right now," he said on Tuesday. "But when you think about the high end of it, this is an exciting group."

Sale was 17-10 with a 3.34 ERA and 233 strikeouts this season, one year after his 274 strikeouts led the majors. He is scheduled to make $12 million next year, with club options that could keep him in Boston for two more years at $12.5 million and $15 million.

The relatively affordable contact had contenders coveting him since last year's trading deadline, and the White Sox knew he was their best trading chip if they were going to rebuild the roster that finished fourth in the AL Central last year. While the crosstown Cubs won the World Series in 2016, the South Siders have not made the playoffs since 2008.

Trade talk also had Washington as a potential landing spot for Sale.

"It's kind of like being monkey in the middle," he said. "You're glad when you just get the ball."

Sale's affordable contract made him even more attractive to the Red Sox, who are trying to remain under the luxury tax threshold. It also made it easier for them to eat the $31.5 million signing bonus they are paying the 21-year-old Moncada—the largest ever for an amateur player; the amount was doubled as a penalty for exceeding their international signing cap.

But in a brief stint in the majors this season, Moncada batted .211 with one RBI in eight games.

"If I get an opportunity to play every day, I can improve," he told reporters on Wednesday. "And I can be a better player (with) that experience."

The other three prospects were all in Class A in 2016: Michael Kopech, 20, went 4-1 with a 2.08 ERA; Luis Basabe, also 20, hit .264 with 53 RBIs; Victor Diaz, a 22-year-old righty, went 2-5 with a 3.88 ERA in relief.

"These are the type of impact players that we need to continue to acquire and build up to get our system to the point where we are able to have that extended run of success," White Sox general manager Rick Hahn said.

Kopech is a 6-foot-3 righty who has hit 105 mph with his fastball. With his height, power arm and long blonde hair, he has been compared to Mets pitcher Noah Syndergaard.

"I don't want to be that to be my ceiling. No disrespect to him, but I want to set my own ceiling," Kopech said. "I don't like to make comparisons, but that's not a bad person to be compared to."

Guam-Saipan pair clinches doubles title

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Guam's Sam Lai and Saipan's Dong Min Lee survived two tough matches to win the men's over 40 doubles crown in the 8th Annual TanHoldings Tennis Classic last weekend at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan courts.

The top-ranked Lee and Lai first edged Joe Quitugua and Brian Wessel in the semifinals, 6-3, 7-6 (8) to bag the finals ticket at the upper half of the draw. Quitugua and Wessel moved into the semis against Lai and Lee after slipping past Roy Banados and Art Lopez, 6-4, 4-6, 10-8.

Up next for the eventual champions were Don Castillo and Ken Imaya, who marched into the title game following a 6-4, 6-4 victory over Eric Abragan and Mihai Leta. In the championship match, Lai and Lee took the first set, 6-2, but missed a sweep when Imaya and Castillo came out on top in the second, 6-4. In the deciding super-tiebreaker third set, the opposing teams went back and forth before Lee and Lai eked out a 10-7 triumph.

In other results, Sam's brother David ruled the men's over 50 doubles along with Eddie Wu. Wu and David won the battle of the Top 2 seeds in the finals after posting a 4-2, 4-2 victory against the top-ranked pair of Imaya and Wessel. Wu and David earned a slot to the title match after eliminating Neo Masinda and Diony Peralta, 6-2, 6-1, and Banados and George Poquiz, 6-4, 6-3, at the lower half of the draw.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Guam's Sam Lai, left, gives Saipan's Dong Min Lee a low-five after they scored a point against Don Castillo and Ken Imaya in the men's over 40 doubles title game in the 8th Annual TanHoldings Tennis Classic last Sunday at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan courts.

At the upper half of the field, Imaya and Wessel drew a bye in the first round and moved it to the finals following a 6-1, 6-0 victory against Jorge Olanda and Boboy Sergio—the walkover winners against Su Jong and Boboy Sergio.

Meanwhile, after falling short in the two doubles events, Wessel finally made it to the champions circle after topping the men's over 50 singles. Wessel defeated Gary Ramsey in the finals, 6-0, 7-5.

Bong Gamab also triumphed in the second and final week of the annual tournament after ruling the men's over 40 singles as he went unbeaten in two games in the round-robin contest.

Diyco, Dizon pace Saipan finishers in 'Hell'

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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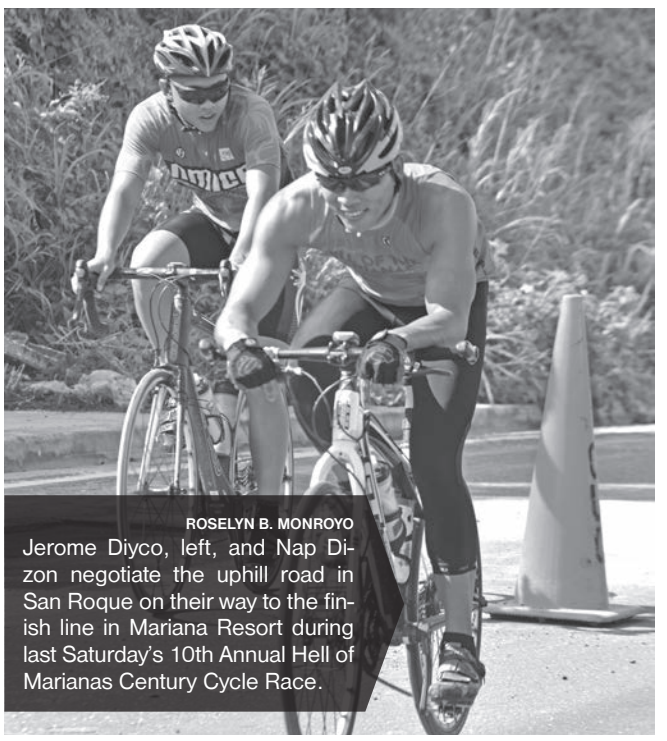
REPORTER

Jerome Diyco and Nap Dizon were ranked first among the Saipan finishers in the road and mountain bike divisions of last Saturday's 10th Hell of Marianas Century Cycle Race.

Diyco completed the 100-kilometer course in 3:53:48 to rule the men's U19 age group in the road bike category. He was the lone Saipan entry in the road bike division to break the four-hour barrier, defeating fellow youth biker Wynn Brillo (4:05:00) and Taiga Sato (4:18:50).

Other age group top finishers in the road bike races were 20 to 29's Josh Martin (5:24:44), 30 to 39's Jonathan Martin (3:29:53), 40 to 49's Ritchie Ian Solana (3:48:02), Nestor Glenn Gonzales (3:31:20), 50 to 54's Rick Leone (3:58:43), 55 to 59's Willy Barbo (4:13:29), and over 60's Manny Sitchon (4:56:42).



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Jerome Diyco, left, and Nap Dizon negotiate the uphill road in San Roque on their way to the finish line in Mariana Resort during last Saturday's 10th Annual Hell of Marianas Century Cycle Race.

Sitchon won over Steve Nutting (5:17:20), while Barbo prevailed against Florence Antonio (4:47:19). Leone made it to the podium along with Robert Tamondon (4:06:01) and Cesar Fortaleza (4:19:13), while Gonzales was joined in the Top 3 by Katsuki Ishimatu (3:52:08) and Bon Ferrer (3:54:03). Jake Gimoto (3:48:03) and Manny Mascutino (4:05:00) finished third and second behind Solana, while J.C. Libut (4:08:35) and Paul Cuaresma (4:30:08) completed the Top 3 finish in the 30 to 39 age group of the road bike category.

In the MTB division, Dizon's 3:53:51 bested the times of 18 other finishers in his category. He was the second overall Saipan finisher (road and MTB combined) and first in the 40 to 44 age group, beating Ferdinand Ramos (4:26:24), and Harold Balana (4:39:16).

Rounding out the age group champions list in the MTB category were U19's Von Adrina Libayan (4:06:19), 30 to 39's Charlie Sendin (4:02:29), 45 to 49's Mark Isip (4:06:01), 50 to 54's Noel Altamirano (4:16:56), 55 to 59's Boby Aguilar (4:53:37), and manatee's Floro Derexes (4:56:42). In the women's division, the top winners were 20 to 29's Kristina Mafnas (6:37:39), 30 to 39's Felicia Reynolds (5:34:38), and 40 to 44's Kimberly King-Hinds (5:02:44).

GOLDEN

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doubles also went the distance with A.J. Ortega and Robin outlasting Hajin and John Oh, 19-21, 21-19, 21-19.

The above matches were played on Court 1 where Shirley's avoided a shutout, thanks to Vilma Reyes and Annette Ta's victory over Merlie Savellano and Roxanne Soriano in the women's BB doubles, 21-18, 21-17.

Over at Court 3, long-time partners Janelle Pangilinan and Jen Savellano outclassed Ta and Hannah Choi, 21-12, 21-18 to start the Golden Racquets' string of four victories via sweeps. A.J. Ortega gave the Golden Racquets its second win on the same court after topping John Oh in the men's C singles, 21-14, 21-11. Joey Algenio and Myla Vicencio made it three in a row for the eventual champion when they defeated Solo and Kathy Distor, 21-13, 21-14, while Janelle Pangilinan extended her team's streak with a 21-12, 21-13 triumph over Fernandez in the women's A singles.

Shirley's then snapped its losing skid in the next pairing when Patrick Fernandez and Ta survived and mother-and-son tandem of Alma and A.J. Ortega in the mixed BB doubles, 21-19, 16-21, 21-10. However, that was the only victory Shirley's got at Court 3, as the Golden Racquets swept the last two matches to complete its domination of the championship round. The pairs of Algenio and A.J. Ortega and Noli Santos and Vic Reyes delivered the last two wins for the Golden Racquets as they both downed Jun Banadera and Bon Demeterio in the men's CC, 21-11, 21-18, and BB doubles 21-13, 21-5.

WELCH

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nalist in Group 1 after recording 50.06 seconds in the semis, while France's Jeremy Starvius (50.28) and Japan's Takeshi Kawamoto (50.54) also marched into the medal race, which was set last night. In Group 2 semis, Great Britain's Adam Barrett (49.21 seconds) was the top finisher and was joined by the U.S.' Tom Shields (49.46), South Africa's Chad leClos (49.84), Australia's Tommaso D'Orsogna (50.39), and France's Mehdy Metella (50.46) in the finals of the 100m butterfly race.

In the 200m freestyle, Welch's record was about five second better than his seed time (2.15.36) as he touched the wall at the 2:10.87 mark. He was on Heat 1 and again finished ahead of Sumari (2:30.15). Denmark's Anders Lie Nielson ruled Heat 1 after clocking in at 1:43.81.

On Heat 2, Villacrusis logged 2:11.82 to break his entry time of 2.13.11. Guatemala's Emilio Avila prevailed on Villacrusis' heat as the former checked in at 1:55.55. Heat 9 runner-up Taekwan Park of South Korea pulled off an upset in the finals of the 200m freestyle event after timing in at 1:41.03 and taking the gold medal away from the favored LeClos (1:41.65) and Russia's Aleksandr Krasnykh (1:41.95).

In other results, the CNMI's Angel De Jesus had only one event on Day 2 of the competition. She raced in the 100m freestyle and recorded 1:06.97 on Heat 3 to beat Maldives' Aminath Shajan, who submitted 1:07.43.

Tanzania's Sonia Tumiotto (1:00.47) won Heat 3 of the women's 100m freestyle race, which also had its semifinal round yesterday morning. In the Semis 1, Australia's Brittanu Elmslie (52.19 seconds), Japan's Rikako Ekee (52.47), Canada's Sandrine Mainville (52.58), and China's Menghui Zhu (52.90) finished in the Top 4 to move into the finals against Semis 2 qualifiers Penny Oleksiak (52.19) of Canada, Ranomi Kromowidjojo (52.76) of the Netherlands, Federica Pellegrini (52.77) of Italy, and Veronika Popova (52.94) of Russia.

Meanwhile, the U.S. leads the medal tally in the short course (25-meter pool) tournament, pending results of last night's finals. The Americans have a 3-3-2 gold-silver-bronze haul to pace the 176-nation field. Russia is in close second with its two golds, three silvers, and one bronze, while Hungary is at third place with its 3-1-1 tally. Italy is the fourth country that has won at least one gold and it also took two silvers and one bronze, while host Canada has one silver and two bronzes. China and Australia have one gold apiece along with the two bronzes for the former and one for the latter, while South Korea has two gold medals.

BORJA

From Page 36

istered 13, 11, and 10 goals, respectively in the three-round robin competition.

Millare took the same award in Division B, as the Shirley's FC player hauled the most goals in the entire league with her 24. Millare was way ahead of her competitors, as her closest pursuers (Maaya Sato, Manami Tadokoro, and Julia Ishikawa) made only six goals apiece.

In the team awards, Paire was handed the championship trophy in Division A after finishing the season with an 8-0-1 win-draw-loss, while TanHoldings FC (1-3-5) took the Fair Play award. Shirley's (3-2-4) and Kanoa (2-3-4) were the other teams entered in Division A.

In Division B, Shirley's got the title after earning a 7-2-1 mark, while Kagman (1-2-7) received the Fair Play award. MP United (6-1-3) placed second and was followed by Babs (4-2-4), Paire (3-4-3), and Kanoa (3-1-6).

The Dove league also featured a masters division and although results were not officially recorded, tournament officials still recognized teams that stood out this season. MP United and TanHoldings won the Team Spirit and Fair Play awards, respectively, while Kanoa won the Best in Uniform contest. Topnotch was the Best Tactical Team, while Matansa brought home the Team Grit award.

"It was a successful season, especially with the addition of the masters division. We give great thanks and appreciation to Dove and D&Q for sponsoring our women's league this season and for all the support they are giving to our women's program," women's league committee official Angie Ito said.

"The women's committee would also like to thank all the players, teams, clubs, and spectators that participated this season and to NMIFA and the referees committee for supporting the league and being part of its success," she added.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Toronto	14	7	.667	—
Boston	13	9	.591	1½
New York	12	10	.545	2½
Brooklyn	6	15	.286	8
Philadelphia	4	18	.182	10½

Southeast Division

Charlotte	13	9	.591	—
Atlanta	11	12	.478	2½
Orlando	10	13	.435	3½
Washington	7	13	.350	5
Miami	7	15	.318	6

Central Division

Cleveland	15	5	.750	—
Milwaukee	11	9	.550	4
Chicago	11	10	.524	4½
Detroit	12	12	.500	5
Indiana	11	11	.500	5

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

San Antonio	18	4	.818	—
Houston	15	7	.682	3
Memphis	15	8	.652	3½
New Orleans	7	15	.318	11
Dallas	4	17	.190	13½

Northwest Division

Oklahoma City	14	8	.636	—
Utah	14	9	.609	½
Portland	12	11	.522	2½
Denver	8	14	.364	6
Minnesota	6	15	.286	7½

Pacific Division

Golden State	19	3	.864	—
L.A. Clippers	16	7	.696	3½
L.A. Lakers	10	14	.417	10
Sacramento	8	13	.381	10½
Phoenix	6	16	.273	13\A

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

2016 UFO/IT&E Inter-Organizational Basketball League Finals

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

8th Division/MAFEA's Dexter Tenorio, left, loses the ball, while Ali'i Blue Haus/Bayani's Ivan Devero sticks close to him during the third quarter of their title game in the 2016 UFO/IT&E Inter-Organizational Basketball League last Tuesday night at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

8th Division/MAFEA's Rodney Catalla, left, looks for his teammates, while Ali'i Blue Haus/Bayani's Junar Guiab keeps a close eye on him.

Ali'i Blue Haus/Bayani's Junar Guiab, left, tries to break free from the tight defense of 8th Division/MAFEA's Jun Alipio.

Ali'i Blue Haus/Bayani's Ed Diaz scans the floor before making a pass.

8th Division/MAFEA's Jun Tabora pulls up for a point-blanked shot.

Ali'i Blue Haus/Bayani's Ivan Devero, left, draws a foul on 8th Division/MAFEA's Jun Alipio.

8th Division/MAFEA's Alex Lauron runs into the defense of Ali'i Blue Haus/Bayani's Elmer Esdrelon.

Ali'i Blue Haus/Bayani's Elmer Esdrelon, right, drives baseline and is met by 8th Division/MAFEA's Kelvin Fitial.

James scores 25 as Cavaliers crush Knicks, 126-94

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Guam-Saipan pair clinches doubles title

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Golden Racquets dominate

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Jordan Pangilinan gave the Golden Racquets two victories in their 38-7 trouncing of Shirley's Badminton Club in the finals of the 9th Annual Traders Insurance Badminton Team Tournament last weekend at the TSL Sports Complex.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Golden Racquets saved the best for last en route to a 38-7 title win against Shirley's Badminton Club in the 9th Annual Traders Insurance Badminton Team Tournament over the weekend at the TSL Sports Complex.

The Golden Racquets, which dropped a closely fought game against Shirley's, 21-24, in the elimination round, showed dominance in their second and final meeting this season after prevailing in 13 out of the 15 matches in their championship showdown. The winning club was so unstoppable in the finale that 10 of its victories were recorded via sweeps.

Jordan Pangilinan and Deether Edralin handed the Golden Racquets its first victory after downing Jeff Riman and Daniel Macario in the men's AA doubles, 21-15, 21-11. Edralin also played in the mixed AA doubles with Jen Savellano and they needed only two sets, too to top Windy Fernandez and Hajin Oh, 21-10, 21-11.

Savellano and Fernandez's paths crossed anew in the mixed AB doubles with the former teaming up with Joel Ortega in beating the latter and Chris Hilario, 26-24, 21-17. In the women's AB, Alma Ortega and Anna Alvarez made short work of Fernandez and Jaja Bocago, 21-12, 21-15, while Robin and A.J. Ortega also eased past Puy Macario and Hajin Oh in the men's AB doubles, 21-10, 21-13.

In the men's A singles, Edralin got his third win after slipping past Macario, 21-18, 19-21, 21-13. The men's BC

See GOLDEN on Page 34

Welch, Villacrusis drop times anew

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Salofi Welch broke his entry times in two events on Day 2 of the 13th FINA World Swimming Championships in Windsor, Canada.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The CNMI's Salofi Welch and Christian Villacrusis picked up where they left off as they surpassed their entry times again on Day 2 of the 13th FINA World Swimming Championships in Windsor, Canada.

Villacrusis and Welch, who broke their seed times in the 200m individual medley and 100m breaststroke races during the opening day of the tournament last Tuesday (Wednesday on Saipan) at the Windsor Family Credit Union Centre in Ontario, had the same achievement in the 100m butterfly and 200m freestyle events yesterday morning.

The two Commonwealth swimmers were on Heat 2 of the qualifying races for the 100m butterfly event with Villacrusis finishing the four-lap contest ahead of Welch after clocking in at 1:08.2. Villacrusis' time was more than five seconds faster than his entry time of 1:13.03. Welch also eclipsed his seed time (1.09.90) after registering 1:09.66. Both swimmers defeated Tanzania's Joseph Richard Sumari, who checked in at 1:16.25.

Dominican Republic's Dioser Nunez won Heat 2 after posting 57.46 seconds, but he missed the cut for the semis as only the Top 16 in the 10 heats combined advanced. In the semifinal round, which was divided into two groups, only eight moved into the medal round. Australia's David Morgan was the first fi-

See WELCH on Page 34

Borja, Millare lead awardees in Dove league

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Guinevere Borja and Therize Millare of division champions Paire Football Club and Shirley's FC topped the awardees list in the 2016 Dove Women's Fall League that concluded last Sunday at the Chacha Ocean View Middle School Field.

Borja ruled the Golden Boot race in Division A after collecting 18 goals in nine games. The Paire forward defeated Paulyn Grace Joyce, Jeraldine Castillo, and Gillian Villagomez, who reg-

See BORJA on Page 34

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Players in the 2016 Dove Women's Fall League pose for a photo at the conclusion of the season last Sunday at the Chacha Ocean View Middle School Field.